

A
DISCOURSE;

WHEREIN

The Interest of the PATIENT in
Reference to PHYSICK and PHY-
SICIANS is soberly debated,
Many ABUSES of the APOTHECARIES in
the Preparing their MEDICINES
are detected, and Their Unfitness for
Practice Discovered.

Together with

The Reasons and Advantages of Physicians
preparing their own Medicines.

By Jonathan Goddard M.D. FRS

Ἰαν. αὐτὸς εὐρεῖς ἐν ἑρμενεύς ἀγ. ὅς κενόν, πολλὰ
τῷ ὁμοίῳ ἀντιχεαυόνον: μιμῆν, πρὸς κερδαντὴς
Ρήτωρα, καὶ Σοφιστὴς Φιλόσοφον καὶ ΦΑΡΜΑΚΟΠΟ-
ΛΗΣ ΙΑΤΡΟΝ. Mix. Tyr. Dissert. X.

LONDON;

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The Preface To the Reader.

I*T being usual for Authors in Prefaces to render an account of the occasion which gave Birth to their writings, and to acquaint the Reader with the design or scope of their Discourses, I thought it convenient to continue a custom approved by many Illustrious examples:*

A

Let

The Preface

Let me therefore give thee to understand, that it is not desire of applause bath engaged me in this Controversie. The care I have taken to conceal my Name will, I suppose, free me from such suspicion; but besides, let me assure thee I am too far from promising my self any addition to my Repute from this scribe, That I do rather apprehend it will lessen my Esteem with many of those excellent Persons, who are now pleased to Honour me with their Friendship: and do expect from me Discourses very different from those I here present thee. Which considerations surely will gain me credit, when I affirm That no Motive besides that of publick

to the Reader.

lick advantage could ever have prevailed upon me, to exchange my darling Studies of Experimental Philosophy, and Physick (most pleasing and profitable imployments) for barren Controversie, which I ever declined. And among all, if I had consulted my own quiet or Interest, I should have avoyded this wherein I have now engaged; which may occasion me much trouble, but cannot possibly bring me any advantage, besides that satisfaction which is alwayes the result of Actions well intended. Which pleasure I must confess will be much heightned, if this endeavour of mine meets with good entertainment and work the desired Effect; which that it may have, I

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will particularly address my self to all the Persons concern'd with me in this debate: Who are the People or Patients, and Physicians.

This Discourse is chiefly intended for the First, it being they, who are most highly injured by the unwarrantable practices of those we have therein accused; for although many understanding Persons among the People are sufficiently sensible of the abuses we have manifested; and that it is of absolute necessity some reformation be made: yet all are not thus perswaded, for we may daily observe, that many who are less discerning, being deceived by an imaginary good, covet their own ruine; and unless they be given to

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to the Reader.

understand which is the evil and which the good, by persons in whom they have reason to confide, they must necessarily run much hazard. I have here endeavoured to undeceive them, which I should despair of, did I only foresee inconveniences a far off (the Vulgar being led by sense, and not by probable conjectures) but since they do now actually labour under many, and those obvious inconveniences, how short soever their sight be, the sense of feeling being no less acute in them, than in others I perswade myself they will readily give their assent to those Truths I have here discovered. Now there are many things whereof most Apothecaries are highly guilty, as care-

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lessness, Unskilfulness, Unfaithfulness on the one hand, and Intrusion into the Physicians Employment (I mean the Practice of Physick) on the other : on all which accounts as I have fully demonstrated, they are exceedingly injurious to the Publick. In order to the prevention of such unpardonable abuses of the People I have made this Proposal, That Physicians prepare and dispence their own Medicines; and at large shewed That the advantages of such a Constitution will be many and great. For it will much abate the charge and expence of Physick, and the Medicines themselves will be more safe and effectual than now they are, interest obliging Physicians

to the Reader.

ans to have their Physick as good as they can contrive or prepare; and certainly such a State of Physick of all other is most desirable, wherein no man having the Interest can have the Power, nor any having the Power can have the Interest to prepare Medicines unfaithfully: wherein bad men shall be made good, and those that are good never be tempted to become dishonest. And in that Constitution of Pharmacy for which we contend, suppose men be never so bad; yet nevertheless their wickedness cannot have any ill influence on Physick, *as is manifested at large in this following Discourse: so that*

if

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if the sick have regard, either to profit or safety, they will address themselves to those Persons who supply them with the best Remedies, and at cheapest Rates.

And as for Physicians, they must necessarily put their affaires into some such Method, as this we have commended; If they have any concern for their Patients, or intend to improve Pharmacy it self. For as it hath been well observed, if we depend only upon that we read in Books, we shall never promote this Art beyond its present limits; and if Physicians in former times had not been knowing in Simples, examined their Vertues, and Tempers, enquired into their Effects, and mixed them

to the Reader.

them with their own hands, there had been no such Science as Physick. Now according to the Antient Axiom, Ex quibus Constamus, ex iisdem Nutrimur, Those things which gave a being to this Noble faculty must help to make it compleat; towards which as nothing can contribute more than the improvement of Pharmacy: so neither can any thing promote that, more than Physicians taking it into their Management. But besides all this, it is fit that they who exercise themselves in the Practice of Physick, be satisfied their Medicines are good; whereby their Mind will be free, and without any clog: which would add more difficulties and dangers

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dangers to a thing by it self hard
and dangerous.

These and other Considerations
mentioned and insisted on in the
following Discourse will I assure
my self, perswade all Physicians who
have respect to the good and benefit
of their Patients, Honour of their
profession, or own Reputation, to put
Pharmacy into other hands, and into
better Methods, than those wherein
at present it is; Whereby they who
now dishonour it (I mean the Apo-
thecaries) will either be reduced to
a sense and performance of their
Duty, or sufficiently punished. For
Notwithstanding that they do now
Unanimously resolve with associa-
ted endeavours to Oppose all Refor-
mation

to the Reader,

ination; yet I am perswaded that if Physicians take some such courses as those I have mentioned, the event will be the same with that of Mutinies. Where if the Commander be resolute he makes some of the Mutineers exemplary, and threatens others; of fierce, that they were in general, each one out of his particular Fear becomes obedient: So how insolent soever the Apothecaries now are when they see their Punishment neer and certain, not trusting to one another, they will hasten all to Obedience; especially if good encouragement be given to those who return to their Duty, and become Reformadoes.

And now (to hasten to a Conclusion

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sion) if any fancy, we have too rudely attacked the Apothecaries, let them consider (and then certainly they will excuse us) that what we have done is only in our own defence; for we had never interrupted their quiet, could they have contained themselves within due limits and not invaded our Profession. So that if the Case be stated rightly, it will appear most evident, that we are on the Defensive part; They the Aggressors; and that we cannot justly be blamed, if in our own Defence we offend them: or if being forced, we take violent Courses, whose End yet is not (as may be pretended) Destruction and confusion, but Order and redress.

Nothing

to the Reader.

Nothing now remains but that I
Apologize for the defects of the en-
suing Discourse. It may be objected,
that the Method is not exact, the
expression rude, the Style unpolished
and abrupt, the parts not closely
cemented by handsom and sutable
Transitions. All which I readily
acknowledge: But withall Desire
the Readers to consider that
this Book was begun and finished
within the space of six or eight
dayes at the most; and even then I
was not free from diversions of many
kinds: so that being penned in so
short a time, the subject it self un-
pleasant, and the writer variously
distracted, it is scarcely possible it
should be compleat in Method or
Expression

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Expression. Besides, this Discourse ^{my} was not calculated for Scholars, but ^{dis} for the Vulgar to whose capacity it ^{is} is adapted; for if I had intended to ⁱⁿ instruct the former, I would have ^{mu} taken more time and pains, ^{dis} gested the matter better, th disposed it more advantageously, and th endeavoured to cloath it in more handsome expressions.

I must not here forget to acknowledge, that I have borrowed several passages from the judicious Author of a late excellent Discourse concerning the State of Physick, and the regulation of its Practice. I suppose it will be easily imagined that I could have spoken the same things in other words; but
my

to the Reader.

my respect for that Worthy Person
disposes me to believe they will
sound better and be more effectual
in his own language; although I
must crave his pardon for transpo-
sing some, and accommodating o-
thers to a proposal, he did not then
think fit to mention.

For Faults in Printing &c.
the Printer must be responsible; and
particularly for that formall be-
ginning of the 177. Page, which
was never so intended by the Au-
thor.

This is all with which I thought
fit to acquaint thee, I shall there-
fore now end with this request.
That thou determine nothing in the
behalf, or to the prejudice of this
per-

The Preface &c.

performance, till thou hast impartially examined all that is contained therein; and then if it appear that I have spoken truth, I expect it should be owned and promoted by thee: if I be in any thing mistaken I am content to hear of it, and ready to retract whatsoever is not consonant to Truth and Reason.



A

DISCOURSE

WHEREIN

The Interest of the Patient in
reference to *Physick* and *Physicians*
is soberly Debated, &c.

IN all Ages, and among all Nations,
Health hath obtained the repute
of being the greatest among
Earthly felicities, in the absence
whereof we cannot relish any of those
numerous enjoyments which the
bountifull Creator hath plentifully be-
stowed on us; so that the most sub-
lime Antient Philosophers, who
B exclu-

excluded all other External good from being necessary to the well-being of Man, placing happiness onely in those things whereof we cannot be deprived: yet out of them they excepted Health, knowing there was so near a Connexion between the Soul and Body, that this could not be disordered in its Functions, but that would be disturbed in its Operations.

Hence it was, that even among the Wisest, that Science or Art, whereby those Defects we call Diseases were repaired, was always accounted Divine; and the Ministers or Dispensers of this Skill were looked on as the hands of the Gods: and some of them held the first places among their Deified Mortals.

It is well known how great a name *Hippocrates* obtained, not onely in *Greece* (which he delivered from a depopulating Plague) but in remote parts; so that the greatest Monarch in the *East*, and his Vice-Roys, were
suitsors

suitors to him to free their Country from that devouring Disease, which threatened to exhaust those populous Regions of their Inhabitants : unless the same Person which freed *Greece*, interposed, whom they esteemed Divine, and descended from the Gods, because so Successfull in such great undertakings.

Neither did the Reputation of Physick die with that excellent Person, but was afterwards in such high account, that the greatest Kings were its chief Professors, and Cherishers ; and thought to render themselves more famous (as indeed they did) by finding out the Virtues of some single Plant, or by the contriving of some noble Composition, and leaving their Names entailed on them : than by their acquits of Countries, or enlargement of Empire.

And the Profession of Physick, although neglected by the rude antient *Romans* ; yet with the increase of Civility,

vility, Arts and Sciences, this noble Faculty made a proportionable progress in the esteem of that then judicious people : and it hath ever since been most honoured, and encouraged in the most civilized thriving Nations and Times ; Neither was it ever exploded, but where Barbarism or Ignorance prevailed.

So that, when I consider, what reverence hath been paid to this Profession, and the Professors thereof, in all times whereof we have any particular account , I am amazed to find that in this latter Age, wherein it hath received a greater improvement than in two Thousand years before , and daily makes a considerable and sensible progress ; that nevertheless it should be by many neglected, by others slighted, and by some even contemned. After a diligent enquiry into the causes of so strange and suddain an alteration , I could not in my opinion so justly ascribe it to Defects in the Profession,

fession, as to those of its Professors.
 Not that I deny Physick to have its
Desiderata, for I believe it is capable
 of receiving great improvements;
 But howsoever, all this notwithstanding,
 it might to this Day have been
 maintain'd at least in the same degree
 of honour and esteem which all Ages
 have justly had for it, if the impru-
 dence of the Real, ignorance and base-
 ness of the pretended, Artists had not
 interposed. Under the former I com-
 prise the Physicians, under the latter
 their Dependants the Apothecaries,
 who I am confident have caused many
 of the inconveniences, under which
 the practice of Physick now labours;
 and will occasion others, if not pre-
 vented, whereof Physicians are (not
 without reason) apprehensive.

Perhaps I shall hardly find credit
 among superficial observers, when I
 affirm, that the greatest enemies Phy-
 sick or Physicians have at present, are
 the Apothecaries, who should be, and

are thought to be their fast friends ; but this Assertion will easily gain belief with more discerning persons , who know that a false Friend is more dangerous than an open Enemy : of which the *Italians* are sufficiently sensible when they desire to be delivered from their friends, they being always upon their Guard against their professed Adversaries. And indeed it is much more easie for any one, who is acquainted with the thoughts, designs and affairs of him, to whom he pretends friendship, to injure him in his Person, Estate, or blemish his Reputation, than for another who is not privy to his intentions, nor intrusted with the management of his affairs. Hence it is, that Physicians cannot sustain much damage from common Quack-salvers , or Mountebanks ; and that they cannot promise themselves the same security from Apothecaries, will appear so evident in the ensuing discourse, that every unprejudiced Reader will

will readily conclude Physicians were either very facile, credulous, or else extremely improvident, when they committed so great a trust to the Apothecaries, in whom they reposed such confidence, that the short-sighted Vulgar were sensible of their danger before they themselves could imagine that, those whom they had so highly obliged, would prove unfaithfull to Physick and Physicians : But now they are forced, though late, to acknowledge, that the great Indulgence they shewed to them, and their notorious abuse of privileges, wherewith had Physicians been circumspect, or suspicious, they had never been acquainted, have occasioned those inconveniences, to which they now endeavour to bring a timely remedy. It is not without a great deal of regret, that they are necessitated to proclaim the Crimes of those whom they have too much, too long countenanced, too often vindicated ; and they still retain too much kindness

for them, that if a private opposition could have reclaimed them, the Physicians would never have used so severe and violent a remedy, as is the exposing their unworthy Principles and Practices to the view of the World: but since they are both so mischievous, that to conceal, would be to permit, and allow them, and thereby to betray their Patients, themselves, their Profession and Successors, they are therefore forced to declare how much themselves, their Profession, and the Sick are injured by those vile arts of the Apothecaries, which we shall here display.

It is well known they have great pretences (how fair we shall soon examine) to the practice of Physick; and are now arrived at that degree of confidence (not to say worse) that they are not ashamed to publish this before all men, whom by most unworthy, and illegitimate Artifices, they endeavour to alienate from the Physicians,

ficians, and assure to themselves. And
 besides, they are not more fraudulent
 in their Practice, than unfaithfull in
 their preparations, few Physicians
 having the satisfaction they desire, and
 it is fit they should receive, that the
 Medicines they prescribe are prepared
 after their direction; nothing being
 more frequent than for the Apothecary
 to employ bad Druggs, add, subtract,
 or substitute at pleasure one Ingredient
 instead of another. Now how con-
 sistent these Actions are with the ends
 of their Institution, we desire not to
 be judges our selves, but appeal to all
 that have the exercise of Reason; and
 if after such unpardonable abuses, the
 Physicians do not desert them, and
 make better provision for themselves,
 and their Patients, they would be un-
 worthy of the trust reposed in them,
 betray their Profession to the scorn of
 the World, and themselves soon be-
 come contemptible.

But yet although the Physicians
 might

might with justice wholly reject the Apothecaries, and are highly censured by many for their forbearance; and though the Apothecaries themselves have little regarded their frequent Admonitions: yet such is the tenderness of those generous persons, that they are determined once more to invite them to entertain a sense of their Duty, and to return to that state from which they are degenerated. Its true we have little hopes of their Reformation, an almost infallible Symptom of incorrigibleness, seeing their scandalous reflections on Physicians in most Companies, their entring into competition with them, nay, sometimes preferring themselves before them; their Associations, not to endeavour the improving their Trade otherwise than by the decay of Physicians, their resolution to stand by each other, and keep the Ground they have got by Treachery, resolving with united Counsels and Purposes to withstand any Reformation.

(II)

Reformation the Physicians shall attempt among them. These are their ordinary discourses, and they do not scruple to give them forth, even in the presence of sober Physicians, who cannot certainly be blamed if they do ill resent such unhandsome and so ingratefull a Carriage. But Charity obliges them to endeavour their amendment rather than their inevitable ruin, which they can when they please, effect by dispensing of their own Physick; the conveniences of which will be found so great by the people (as we shall manifest) that they would soon utterly desert the Apothecaries and leave them in solitude to bewail their wretched improvidence; who when they might have had a comfortable and honest subsistence neglected it, that they might obtain a greater: though thereby many lives were hazarded, most of their Benefactors disobliged; and how could they expect that building should be lasting, whose foundation was laid in blood,

blood, and ingratitude. Yet how notorious soever matters of Fact are, least they should pretend innocence, and thence promise themselves impunity we shall first declare their enormous abuses of Physicians and their Patients. Secondly, lay down certain Propositions, wherewith if they comply, we will oblige our selves yet to retain them. Thirdly, if they refuse to submit to such reasonable terms, we shall acquaint the World with some Methods whereby the Practice of Physick can be more successfully managed by Physicians without the Apothecaries than it can possibly be with them, as they are now constituted.

The grounds of our Complaint against the Apothecaries are these.

That no Physicians can be certain, Medicines are made up according to their prescription. So that after they have taken much pains to inform themselves of the symptoms of the disease, to understand the causes of the

distempers, and have duely deliberated what are likely to prove the most proper remedies; which being judiciously prescribed, they promise themselves that success which usually attends solid Counsel: but after all this trouble, either from the design, Ignorance, Carelessness, or unfaithfulness of the Apothecaries, they are often frustrated, not so much to their own prejudice (which yet is not inconsiderable) as to the Patients, which shall be here demonstrated.

I. Physicians are subject to suffer from the malice or Design of Apothecaries. Now although Charity obliges us to think well of all men, till their actions discover them to be bad; yet such hath been the demeanour of the Apothecaries towards the Physicians, that they have reason to stand upon their guard, and hazard as little with them as they can. For some Apothecaries having been, as they pretend, highly disobliged by Physicians (I suppose,

suppose, because for their own advantage, they would not permit them to injure their Patients by bad Physick) what assurance can the Physician have, that they do not meditate revenge; especially since, if they have an opportunity, they can execute it, and be so far from being suspected themselves, that they may make a great advantage of their own miscarriages. (which indeed they often do) As suppose a Physician with whom the Apothecary is disgusted, prescribe a Purge, the Apothecary may make it with Worm-eaten superannuated Druggs, wherewith most of them are well stored; which very probably will not work according to the Physicians promise, and the Patients expectation: the Apothecary may be ready at hand to tell him that this was no ways accommodated to his temper; nay, perhaps he before-hand presages to him, that it will not work sufficiently, (as he may without Conjuring or Astrology)

logy) whereby he obtains the reputation of a person more judicious than the Physician, and makes way for this proposition, That he will prepare a purge for him which shall work more effectually than the former. This perhaps is the same the Physician before prescribed, but assuredly made up of better Druggs; and so the Apothecary at once executes his malice, and effects his design which is to exclude the Physician, and introduce himself. This is, indeed, a supposition, but I fear such as is often practiced; and there are many Physicians who have found it true to their cost: yet these are some of the more Innocent Cheats. I wish we be not often exposed to others of worse consequence, than a slight disgrace of the Physician, and abuse of the Patient. Charity forbids me to suspect worse than I know, but what will not a dishonest mind intent on revenge or gain, scruple? howsoever, I think it behoves Physicians to
take

take such care, that they and their Patients lye not exposed to the designs of wicked Apothecaries; and that there either are, or may be some such, they have reason at least to fear, and Consequently provide, that they be not injured by them.

2. Another thing Physitians find fault with, in many Apothecaries, is their ignorance in the Latin Tongue, which is of very ill Consequence; for Physicians, for good reasons, not here to be mentioned, have been long accustomed to write those prescripts, they send to the Apothecaries, in Latin: which not being rightly understood, hath often occasioned, not only innocent, but also fatal mistakes. And that a great part of the Apothecaries are very illiterate, is so evident that they themselves dare not deny it. Nay, I have heard them often divert themselves with the mistakes committed by the younger Apothecaries at their Hall; where it is the Custom before they make

make an Apprentice (that hath served seven, or eight or nine years) free of their Company, to put him to construe a Doctor's bill, or something in the Dispensatory; which is the only mark of respect they have left for Physicians: and if the Probationer escapes this dangerous tryal, he is admitted with great applause. But I do not hear of any, whom they exclude; and they have been highly offended at Physicians, excepting against them: yet many by their own relations, are guilty of gross mistakes; which though they may be pleasant to talk of, yet are sad and serious ones when they come to cost people their lives, or so much as hazard them, which they frequently do. This assertion I could confirm by an innumerable company of instances; and there is scarce any Physician, who hath not been troubled with several of them in his Practice. Now if the Masters themselves are subject to these miscarriages, what can we expect from the Servants, who we may

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presume are in every respect, their Inferiours. These mistakes are either of one Material for another, or in the Quantities of the Materials; especially, when Physicians write them at length in Latin: for many of the Apothecaries understand the numbers only in figures, so that some of them know little difference between *Sexdecem*, *Sexaginta* and *Sexcenta*; And of *duodeviginti* they will make at least twice twenty. And so for measures, sometimes mistakes proceed from their ignorance in the names of the *Materia Medica*. Among many other instances of this kind, That most unfortunate one recorded by an eminent Physician, is notorious, Of an Apothecary, who instead of a dose of *Mercurius Sublimatus Dulcis*, exhibited so much common Sublimate, a mortal poyson; which was scarce ever given inwardly, instead of an innocent Medicine, approved by all Physicians. Sometimes they mistake one operation for another,

which

which I could give a large account; but the mentioning of them will be sufficient, since every Physician is able to make a fair Catalogue of them: and there are not many Apothecaries whose Consciences will not at the mention of this, reproach them with the remembrance of many such mistakes, the meanest and most innocent, of which cannot but be a great injury to the Physician, and Patient. The first expects his Medicines should have such Operations as he might promise himself from them, if rightly prepared; the other waits for relief, which in these cases is usually the effect of Counsel, rarely of Chance: or if the miscarriage prove fortunate, which hath sometimes happened, the Patient is no more beholding to the Apothecary, than he was to the Enemy that cured him of an inward Ulcer (under which he had long languished) by a thrust with his Sword. For as that salutary wound would have proved mortal, if it had been in another

place; so these lucky mistakes might be dangerous, if the Apothecary had lighted on another Material: which that he did not employ, cannot be ascribed to his knowledge, Care or Sagacity, whatsoever he may afterward pretend.

3. Another Complaint against the Apothecaries, is, that they are not well acquainted with the *Materia Medica*, the knowledge whereof is an Essential part of their Profession: but take the words of Druggists who themselves are sometimes mistaken, and differ about the names of several druggs; and which is worse, they trust to Herb-women, who obtrude almost any thing upon the greatest part of them. And that these women do often mistake one thing for another, sometimes ignorantly, otherwhile designedly, is well known to many Physicians; who have seen them sell the Apothecaries herbs, roots, and seeds, under other names, than those they do really bear.

I do not affirm this of them all, for I am not Ignorant that some Apothecaries are good Herbarists, whose diligence I cannot sufficiently commend; and our industrious Country-men, *Parkinson* and *Johnson*, to whom we are beholding for their elaborate Herbals, were Apothecaries: although they have not wrote, especially the former, with that judgment which is requisite, and found in the writings of many Physicians, from whom indeed they derive the greatest part of their knowledge; as they themselves acknowledge. But the generality of Apothecaries are of another humour, they will eat the kernel, but give not themselves the trouble of cracking the shell; take no pains to inform themselves in those things which are absolutely necessary to the faithful discharge of their trust, many among them cannot distinguish between Ingredients, noxious and salutary: so, That we have not Patients daily poysoned, is rather

from the care of Herb-women, than Apothecaries. Now Physicians depending almost wholly on such Vegetables as our own Country affords for the cure of Diseases; which if rightly apply'd, are more proper, cheap, fuller of virtue and efficacy, than those that come from remote parts (excepting a few whose vertues are kept pretty entire) and some of them specificall for diseases, which others substituted in their place, may exasperate, though even they also upon another occasion may prove effectual: so that hence proceed many inconveniences. The Patient is not relieved, who perhaps might have been perfectly restored to former health; the Physician who would thereby have acquired repute, is neglected, if not disgraced: and which is worst of all, he distrusts; nay, perhaps wholly rejects remedies, commended in the books of experienced Physicians, or communicated to him by judicious faithful friends, through

through the fault of the Apothecary, which might have proved conducive to promote the recovery of many sick people, who after languish all their lives for want of some proper generous Medicine.

4. Most of the Apothecaries trust to several for Compositions, in whom (how charitable soever the Apothecaries may be) Physicians have little reason to confide. There is it seems a great trade driven by many in this City, of selling Medicines by whole-Sale. One makes *Treacle*, *Mithridate* or *Diascordium*, in great quantities; *Unguent's* Plaisters, and what not : now many of the Apothecaries can buy such Compositions cheaper of these persons, than they can prepare them for, after the prescription of the Colledge in their Dispensatory. This is a good thrifty course, but suppose a dissatisfied Physician (of which not without Cause, there is a great number) suspect, That these Compositions are not

made of sound druggs, and other choice Ingredients; especially since they afford them cheaper than other honest men can make them. And besides, these men for the most part are not Apothecaries, or bred in that trade; but Operators, who casually have taken up this way of living: so that their skill as well as honesty is liable to be questioned. To these Objections the Apothecaries readily answer, That buying their Ingredients at the best hand, and in Quantities, they have them cheaper than those that deal for smaller parcels; and besides they have some peculiar knack in Composition, which saves them much trouble and expense. The first signifies somewhat, yet is not a sufficient answer; but of what kind this latter should be, an honest Apothecary, that surmises no worse of others than he is conscious of in himself, cannot easily imagine. To expend sixpence less in fire in the making two hundred or three hundred pound weight of Plaster,

ster, or Unguent, is not very considerable; so neither is Expediteness or dispatch, which at most cannot save much more in the same quantity: so that what this knack should be, unless leaving out some of the most costly Ingredients, substituting others in their room, or using only such as are perished and may be procured at easy rates, I cannot conceive. And that thus it is, I am rather induced to believe, from what I my self have often observed in the Shops of the Apothecaries among other abuses, too many to mention. They ordinarily vend to those that pay a price for the best that can be made, *Emplastrum Oxyroceum sine croco*; which in downright English, is the Plaster of Saffron, without a grain of that noble Ingredient, from which it derives its name and most of its Verrues: which for the most part they borrow of their corresponding Plaster-mongers. In short, most of the Plaisters and Unguents of the Shop, compared with those that
are

are made by skilful and honest hands, are so unlike, that they may be easily distinguished by the naked Eye, or some other of the Senses which argues a sufficient difference; but there is a much greater and more sensible in their effects, as hath been often experimented. And I have sometimes heard some curious Chyrurgions grievously complaining of the Shop-trash (they could bestow no better title on it) and professed, that if they used the Unguents and Plaisters of the Apothecaries, their employment would keep pace with their cures, and be as little, as they few; whereas preparing those Medicines they use themselves, their success is conspicuous, and their Patients numerous. If Physicians did in this imitate the Chyrurgions, they would not have occasion to complain so often, as now they do; and that, I fear, not without cause.

I cannot dismiss this Subject, before I take notice of an Observation

I have often made and admired at, which is, that the Apothecaries who are very tender of their Priviledges (to give them their due) and who pretend to have a Charter of large extent, should yet nevertheless permit these Unguent and Plaister-sellers to follow that way of traffique; whom yet they are so far from prosecuting and disallowing, that on the contrary they seem to approve of them by keeping a Correspondence with them, and buying their Commodities. Now what should dispose them to this tenderness and forbearance, of which they are not often guilty, I cannot imagine, unless it be interest. These persons furnishing them with those Compositions at such easy rates, that I have my self over-heard some of them question, Whether they could possibly make them faithfully, since the very Ingredients, would cost as much as the Plaisters, &c. were sold for? Which I confess is to me, a deep Mystery: whether of Iniquity, let others judge. There

There is another Custom among Apothecaries, whereof all Physicians do not approve; that is, there are some who make *Mithridate*, others *Treacle*, a third *Diascordium*; perhaps one, all these: another, that noble Preparation, *Pulvis à Chelis Cancrorum*, commonly known by the name of *Gascoign's powder*; others *Alchermes*, *Lenitive Electuary*, *Confectio Hamech*; some, *Syrups*; other, *Cordial waters*; and they drive a trade of Exchanging with each other, it being to be supposed, that making great Quantities, they can sell cheap: which dealings render their Preparations suspected to the Physician, who often finds these Medicines to be as bad as they are cheap; and therefore most decline the use of Preparations, if they have not first an assurance that they are made by the Apothecaries themselves, whose word we only have for it. But let us suppose they do really make all the Physick they dispense, yet still the Sceptical Physician will not be satisfied, having

having still some scruples remaining;
 which, I fear, will not be easily removed.
 5. It is therefore objected by many
 Physicians, who are somewhat more
 concerned for the good of their Pati-
 ents, than the Apothecaries, as yet ap-
 pear to be, That these in the Compoun-
 ding of Physick employ bad druggs,
 and use superannuated Medicines which
 are fit for the dunghill, without any
 previous Preparation; That if they
 want any Simple or Composition that
 is prescribed, they substitute in its
 place some other, which (in their
 profound Judgments) they apprehend,
 approaches nearest thereto. Besides
 some of them have been found to add
 to some prescriptions, and subtract
 from others; One or the other, accor-
 ding to the suggestions of a petu-
 lant fancy. These are grievous char-
 ges, and deserve to pass a severe ex-
 amin, That if true, some remedy may
 be found against such unpardonable
 abuses; or if false, that the innocent
 may

may be acquitted, and the scandal removed. Its commonly said, *Vox populi, Vox Dei* : So that the Apothecaries being accused by both Physicians and their Patients, it is to be feared they are Criminal. But they will not permit us the Testimonies of Physicians, which they endeavour to render invalid ; for being Conscious that they have grossly abused them, they are perswaded these will unanimously condemn them : therefore they are excepted against, as interested persons, and their plea must not be allowed of. If we appeal to events, and tell them of persons that have been, either manifestly injured by bad Physick ; when that which was prescribed, if it had been duely prepared, would in all probability have given them great relief : or if we mention others, on whom strong purging, vomiting, or sweating Physick, or such, as if prepared after the Physicians prescript, would have proved such, hath had little or no sensible Operation, when

when the same faithfully prepared by other hands, or by the same, the Physician supervising, quickly displayed its nature according to his intention. All these things they ascribe to chance, and pretend that when Physick hath not the desired or promised effect, the Physician to excuse his own defects, lays the blame on Apothecaries, or bad druggs. Since therefore we are excluded from these ways of proof (which yet no indifferent or unconcerned person will deny us) nothing remains, but that we accuse them out of their own mouths. I remember a great Philosopher tells us, that if we would know what actions are vitious, we should enquire of the Vulgar, whose Consciences force them generally to condemn what is bad in others, if they have no concern in the Action; for though they may approve of it in themselves, when they apprehend, it's for their own advantage: yet they will endeavour so to disguise and excuse it, that it may not appear

pear in its native colour, but pass current under the notion of good, honest, or convenient. This is verified in the Apothecaries. There is no particular person that will acknowledge himself to be in the least faulty, they all faithfully prepare their Medicines; but if we will give credit to what they say of each other, we shall hear the contrary: for if the people urge against them, as well they may, the dearthness of their Medicines (which frequently happens) I have often heard them reply, that they were faithfully prepared; and therefore deserved a greater price than those which others vend (its true) cheaper, because they were made with bad druggs, That surely none, who had any respect for their health, would grudge to give a small matter more, for good remedies than the worst would cost them: thus they generally exclaim on each other. And perhaps there are some who apprehend that few of them are wronged

wronged by these mutual Accusations.

But howsoever, either the Apothecaries are an envious, malicious sort of people, to traduce each other in affairs of so great consequence as those wherein the lives or welfare of many thousand men are at stake; or these accusations are true: either of which being allowed, must necessarily render the Apothecaries unworthy of any great trust, at least till they reform their words or actions. But truly I am inclined in this particular to believe what the Apothecaries affirm of each other, it being seconded by common Fame, and the observation of Physicians whose duty and interest obliges them to discover the intrigues of a Profession which hath so immediate a dependence on them, as indeed they on it.

It were an endless task to enumerate all the fraudulent tricks, which are used by those Apothecaries who are

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not

not Conscientious ; for some I persuade my self there are, who keep strictly to the end of their Institution, the faithful and careful Preparation of Medicines : but I fear these are so few, that they are scarce observed in a croud of men so bad, that to endeavour to render them worse then they are, were to throw Ink in the Face of an *Ethiopian*. And indeed I cannot say worse of them then barely to relate their practices. I shall not take much notice of their buying bad Druggs, which they apprehend to be good, (and that they are often over-reached seems not impossible to those who have been much conversant with many of them) These being mistakes of Ignorance, and therefore pardonable, so that I do not more blame then pitty them ; and if many did not suffer for their unskilfulness I should entertain a pure compassion for them without an alloy of Anger or Animosity. But there remains other manner of miscarriages than these

these, to be considered; and they are not innocent mistakes, but designed cheats, and such as not only the all-seeing God, but I hope man also will call them to an account for: such are some of these. A great Copper Alembick at one Distillation (O wonderful accurration) supplies a whole Shop with simple waters; for it's but flinging into a great quantity of Water in the Stillatory a handful of twenty or thirty sorts of Herbs, as much of the Water being drawn off as is thought sufficient, a due proportion is put into each Glass with its title. Now 'tis well known that most simple distilled Waters have neither sensible smell, nor taste; and differ as to appearance no more from each other than the fixed salts of Plants, though we find both them and these have somewhat (at least a few of them) different effects. So that this cheat is not so easily detected, as an unskilful person would be apt to imagine. But to give our

Apothecary his due, I cannot say he vends any of those Waters, whereof he hath not put a handful into the Still, his Conscience is not so large as to permit him to impose so grossly on his Patients; Nay, perhaps the Vertue of each Herb keeps it self distinct in some portion of Water, without being confounded with its neighbour, as several Chymical Liquors, though never so much shaken, each retires to the station assigned by those various degrees of Gravity and Levity Nature or Art hath bestowed on them; so that the sagacious Apothecary may perhaps restore each Water to its proper Receptacle. But how possible soever this may seem, it doth not appear very probable; and till it can be demonstrated, we shall look upon this as a deceitful Practice, and such as no Physician will dispense with. The same thread runs through many of their other Preparations, as in making Pectoral Syrups, one made up with a handful

of each Ingredient serves for all. Some after that they have extracted the best of the tincture out of Saffron with spirit of Wine, to make the extract and spirit; then they pour more Spirit on the remaining Dreggs, which being strongly expressed, the vinous Spirit is a little tinted: and this is often substituted in the place of that noble Tincture on which Physicians sometimes depend too much, unless they could have it better prepared.

Another just cause of complaint the Physicians have against the Apothecaries, are their old Medicines; For suppose them as faithfully prepared as they can pretend, or we desire: yet length of time will make some changes in them, which are not often improvements. Thus Syrups grow acid, and Waters full of Mother; Electuaries, and Pills Idry, and deprived of their most active parts; Powders themselves are not free from this fate; whose virtues in time we find marve-

lously diminished. But let the Physicians inculcate this and much more to them, they may with as good success preach to stone-walls; for not a Dram of any Medicine will the Apothecaries part with but for sale: so that they many times sell their Preparations five or six years after they were made; and whether their Medicinal properties are not much impaired, if they have any left, we leave to others to determine. And indeed the Apothecary hath many things in his Shop which are not called for in many moneths, yet these must be vended with the rest. All which when they have lost their Vertues, should they be rejected, it would be much to the prejudice of the Apothecaries; and they have a fundamental Maxim, that no such thing should be allowed of: for 'tis much better that the Patient should suffer somewhat in his Body than the Apothecary in his Estate. And if he injured by the bad Physick he took, perhaps he will have

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pitty on him, and the next Prescripti-
on shall be faithfully prepared; where-
by he makes him abundant recompense
for the hurt he received by that which
was bad: and he himself makes an
advantage of both. Although per-
haps, if he had consulted the Patient,
he would rather have chosen to keep
his Head sound, than have it broken,
that a proper Plaster might be applied
for the Cure. This is so notorious a
Truth that all the World, even their
best Friends exclaim against them for
it; and till they amend this among
many other Peccadilloes, the Physi-
cians desire to be excused that they scruple
to employ them.

Another Property they have of sub-
stituting one Ingredient for another,
which how pernicious a thing it is, un-
less the Apothecary were equal or su-
perior to the Doctor in judgment, is
very apparent. This is a subject, on
which every Physician can expatiate;
but I omit it, not that 'tis less material

than the others, but because it is better known: so that there to be particular were as great a Solocisme as to carry Coals to *Castle*; for I should acquaint people, especially those who have been conversant with the practice of Physick with nothing, which they were not sensible of long since. I shall therefore wave this discourse and proceed to another complaint against the Apothecaries, which is,

That Apothecaries and their Servants are so Careless, Slovingly, and Slight in preparing of Dispensatory, or prescribed Medicines, that neither Physicians or the Diseased have reason to repose that trust in them which they challenge as their due. As for slovenliness they may I confess plead the old Proverb; that, *What the Eye sees not, the Heart rues not*. I confess of all the rest it may be best dispensed with, but should Patients but once behold how their Physick was prepared in some Shops, they would so
nauseate

nauseate it, that perhaps they would undergo much, rather than take the least Dose so ordered. But lest I offend nice queasie Stomachs, I shall dismiss this Subject; and proceed to another, which is the carelessness of Apothecaries and their Apprentices: on which I can never reflect without Fear and Indignation; Indignation to think what numbers have been destroyed and injured by such proceedings; Fear, lest it should be my own misfortune to suffer in my Repute, and in my Patients (for whom every honest Physician is passionately concerned, abstractedly from his own interest) from the rashness or carelessness of some giddy Apprentice or indiscreet Master. That this is not a groundless apprehension many Families can witness; and you can converse with few persons, who are not able to give an account of some such miscarriages. Now although in these cases the Patient is chiefly injured, yet it reflects
also

Also somewhat on the Physicians; if for nothing else, yet that they imploy persons who are so little concerned for that precious Merchandise, the Lives of Men, that they will not be at the expense of a little Care, Pains and Trouble to secure them. In vain is it for a Pilot to direct the course of a Ship skilfully, if persons shall make leakes in it under Water; the Wisdom and Care of the Governour will not bring them to their desired Haven; but even He with the Ship will suffer Shipwrack in his reputation, especially if what was transacted in darkness be not discovered; for then it will be supposed that through his unskilfulness it split upon some Rock, struck on some Sand which might have been avoided. Now if Physicians and their Patients will not make provision against such Dangers, they have no reason to complain when they suffer; since it is nothing but what they might easily have remedied.

Now

Now the last complaint of Physicians against the Apothecaries on the account of their Medicines which I shall mention, is their being most of them strangers to Chymistry, which is no inconsiderable part of Pharmacy; whose Preparations at least many of them are of great efficacy and come frequently in use. It's true indeed Physicians were formerly very shy of these Remedies, used them with great caution, and that not without good Reasons; for although the Physicians were satisfied, that being faithfully prepared they were endowed with great Vertue: yet not being at leasure themselves to prepare them, and being earnestly admonished by *Helmont* and other eminent experienced Spagyristes not to trust to Venal Medicines made by common Operators, who for their private gain scruple not to adulterate, as indeed they ever did, and still do, most of their Medicines; Therefore those that consulted the good and welfare of
their

their Patients, did rather wholly de-
 cline practice with those Sophisticated
 Medicines than expose their Patients
 to a manifest hazard. But of late
 years Chymistry is again come into re-
 quest, for Physicians curiosity prompting
 them to prepare some particular Reme-
 dies themselves, others were bestowed
 on them by Persons of Quality who
 prosecuted Chymistry; only that they
 might oblige the publick with useful
 discoveries, especially in Medicine, such
 as That Honourable Person Mr. Boyle;
 and some few honest industrious A-
 pothecaries preparing others for
 them, finding these Medicines of un-
 usual efficacy, they were so far from
 decrying them (which some falsely ob-
 ject) that they were of frequent
 use among such whose good fortune
 it was to meet with these advantages.
 Others making use of those Preparati-
 ons they had from unfaithful Apothe-
 caries or Mercenary Chymist, and find-
 ing they had seldom good, frequently

ill effects, they cannot be blamed for desisting from the use of what they found attended with so bad consequences; which how injurious it hath been to the practice of Physick both in reference to the Physician and the Patient, will appear in the sequel of this discourse. Which that it may be more distinct, I shall proceed after this Method, *First*, Shew what Chymistry is; and that its Medicines are of great efficacy, and safe. *Secondly*, That very many Chymical Medicines ill prepared, are dangerous, and cannot be safely used. *Thirdly*, That the Apothecaries are not furnished with such Chymical Medicines as the Physicians can confide in. As to the *First*, we say that Chymistry is an Art which teaches us how to divide bodies into several parts; and being separated, to purifie and again compound them according to the pleasure of the Artist. Indeed according to the vulgar acceptation of the word it is an Art of making Gold and Silver out of baser

baser Mettals; and that even some who
 before had the repure of being wise,
 have entertained such favourable
 thoughts of it. In this respect I am apt
 enough to believe, having known many
 Learned Mens hopes and expectations
 swelled up to a high pitch by promising
 experiments or fine-spun speculations,
 for which they were beholding to the
 writings of some eminent Alchymists.
 But supposing this to be an extravagant
 Notion, and an abuse of Chymistry; yet
 the Art it self is not therefore to be ex-
 ploded, It being acknowledged by all
 Ingenuous unprejudiced Persons that an
 excellent use may be made thereof, ei-
 ther as it discovers to us the Nature of
 most Bodies exposed to its *Analysis*: and
 in that by its means many Noble Pro-
 ductions may be made, which encrease
 our Knowledge of Nature and our pow-
 er over her; so that at this day nothing
 is in more esteem with the greatest Phi-
 losophers then Chymistry. But I shall
 wave this use of it, as not pertinent to
 our

our present discourse; and proceed to another, which is the preparing of various Subjects in order to the rendering them Noble Medicines. For in many Bodies which are of great use in Physick, that Vertue which makes them so, consists in few Parts which by Chymical Art may be separated from the useless though greater Portion, and further refined or exalted; and then they do more freely, much sooner, and in less quantity display their salutary effects. Thus we see that a small quantity of a Vegetable Spirit made by Fermentation or of Chymical Essential Oyles, are a *Compendium* of a great quantity of the Vegetables that afforded them, retaining exactly the genuine Odours and Tastes of their Mother Plants; And a few drops of Spirit of *Harts-horn* are more effectual than some Ounces of the *Horn* any other way prepared. We could instance in a thousand other things which I omit designing brevity. There are also among
Minerals

Minerals, many Subjects which are ennobled with excellent Medicinal Properties; but they are most of them Noxious, unprepared : and the useful part is lockt up or closely united to the base from which it is not easily freed. Now here Chymistry assists us, for by it we are enabled to separate the Pure from the Impure, the Good from the Bad, that which is of use from the more copious part, which would either have none or ill effects. I will mention but two Minerals which are acknowledged by all, duly prepared, to afford noble Remedies. They are *Mercury* and *Antimony*. *Mercury* admits of various Preparations, and there is not one of these that are commonly known (as for instance those in our own *Dispensatory*) which faithfully prepared do not answer many intentions of a judicious Physician which could not be any other way satisfied, Such are *Mercurius dulcis*, *Mineral Turbith*, the red and other *Precipitates* ; and that not only in Ve-

nereal

nereal distempers, for which alone they were formerly in use; but also in many other Chronical diseases; which are sometimes cured by these, after they have baffled many other promising Methods, and Medicines. As for *Antimony* it is sufficiently known, that scarce any Vomits are prescribed, throughout not only *England*; but *Europe* that are not prepared out of this noble Mineral; which ordered after other Methods is an Excellent and safe Purge, working without gripes: and if we proceed after another way we may render *Antimony* Diaphoretick. As in that which is commonly so called, and in Mineral *Bezoara* Medicine highly commended by those who in the vogue of the People have went for great Galenists. I might instance in *Vitriol*, *Lead*, *Tin*, *Iron*, *Silver*, Many of whose preparations have obtained much Credit in the World: Such are *Salt* and *Sugar of Steel*, its astringent and aperitive *Crocus*, *Diaphoreticum*

E Foviale,

Joviale, Sugar of Lead, Lunar Pills Spirit and Oyle of Vitriol, Ens the Veneris of Mr. Boyle. To these we may add many Preparations of Vegetables and Animals, as the Volatile Spirit, Salt, Oyle and Balsom of *Amber*, Flowers of *Benzoin*, the Cremor or Chrystalls of *Tartar*, its Spirit and Fixt Salts Refines of *Falap*, and *Scammony*, Extracts of *Hellebore*, *Rhubarb*, the fixed Salts of Vegetables, Tincture of *Saffron*, and *Castor*, with many others, which when duly prepared are used very success fully; and therefore it is great pity every Physician cannot be supplied with such of these Preparations as he hath occasion to use: which he that consults the welfare of his Patients dares not do, unless he either prepares them himselfe, for which few have leasure and conveniences, or receive them from persons in whom he can perfectly confide. For Chymical Remedies though as Innocent or any that are made, if prepared by those who are careful, skilfull and honest

honest are of more then ordinary vertue and efficacy; Yet if by others of contrary dispositions, Nothing more pernicious: The Consideration whereof unfolds that Riddle which hath puzzled so many. Whence it is that some sober and modest Physicians do so highly exalt Chymical Remedies ; and at the same time others of candid Tempers as loudly decry them: the one pretending that they are usually attended with good effects: the other confidently pronouncing, that either they have had bad success with them, or that they have proved wholly ineffectual. The difference may be easily reconciled, the one either prepares himself, or supervises the making of his own Medicines ; the other trust to Apothecaries, and common Chymists; whom I shall evince in this particular to be as great cheats as are now Extant in the World : and do deserve more severe punishment, than those that pick-pockets or rob on the High way; for by these abuses man is

only deprived of a small part of his estate; by those sometimes of life, often of Health which is alwayes by their Medicines extreamly hazarded.

In the Third Place, I come therefore to manifest that we ought not to trust the Apothecaries for Chymical Remedies. There are indeed some few that are very skilful and curious in this kind, whose care and industry deserves encouragement; but these are not many, and are so obscured by the far greater number of those that Act otherwise, that they are scarcely visible. The remainder (if I may so call almost the whole company such, without being guilty of a Solœcism) are not instructed in the very Rudiments of Chymistry: many among them never saw a Chymical glass or furnace, are wholly unacquainted with the very names of the operations; and yet these persons are well provided with all sorts of Chymical Remedies which they buy of the Mercenary Chymists. Whom though other-
wise

wise undisposed to Sophistificate their Remedies, (to which I think them naturally Marvellous prone) they tempt to adulterate by offering them such low prizes, for which indeed they cannot afford them, if Genuine and Right; and have an handsome subsistence out of the gain which certainly their Labour and industry deserves: Yet these cheap prized Medicines are retailed by the Apothecaries at unreasonable rates, at least six times the value they cost them. Now what trust there is to be had in the Venal Chymists will appear by the ensuing account, which I protest is most true and faithful, being free from any other designe than that of having such enormous abuses redressed.

Since Chymistry came into the request it hath been subservient, not only to Medicine, but also to Trades; and hath found employment for many searching busie heads: some of which engage therein only, that they may

gratifie an unbounded Curiosity, by observing an infinite variety of changes in the Subject they expose to the action of Fire, and Solvents, delighting themselves greatly in the contemplation of the Causes of those pretty appearances; Others promise to themselves Golden Mountains, either from the general great work as they style it, or from some particular Lucriferous Experiments. Now they that are intent on any of these, make use of many Materials which are ordinarily vended by a sort of men, whose sole employment it is to prepare them. And we know by sad experience, that the greatest part of Mankind are not acted by Principles of Reason, Honesty, or Religion, it being Interest which swayes most; few regarding how it fares with the Publick, so that they thrive in their private Concerns. These Operators therefore having ready vent for their Preparations, they contrive the cheapest Methods of preparing them

them, not regarding how injurious they are to the Sick, and those that dispense their Medicines; or to those curious Persons who deal in nice Experiments: which differences in the same Materials do often exceedingly vary, these unworthy Selfish People being highly satisfied, if the Substance, they vend, resemble the Genuine in all sensible properties. Now those that are well acquainted with Chymistry, know that most of the ordinary Preparations which are the Grounds or Ingredients of others, may be variously prepared; and yet all of them approach so near unto the true, that the most judicious Eye, Nose, or Palate, cannot distinguish between them.

As for instance, There is no Venal Preparation comes more in use than Sublimate made of *Salts* and *Mercury*, whether to make *Mercurius Dulcis*, Butter of *Antimony*, in order to Mineral, and Jovial *Bezoardica*, That Precipitate of it, which is abusively called *Mercurius*

Vita, or liquid Emetick Remedies; And yet it is too well known that this is often Sophisticated by sublimation with *Arsenic*; and certainly we cannot expect, that Remedies wherein this is an Ingredient, can be very innocent. There are so many other known Methods of preparing *Sublimate* amiss; which yet shall be no less fair to fight than the best, that it is to me a greater wonder we have any good, than that we have so much, adulterated by vile Impostors and coverous Operators. Some only Re-sublime common *Sublimate* twice or thrice, and then vend it for that famed harmless Remedy *Mercurius Dulcis*, it becoming almost as Insipid as that; which whether it doth exactly emulate in internal as it doth in sensible Properties I leave to Experience to determine. But this is none of the most profitable *Succedanea*, Therefore many only dissolve the *Mercury* in Common *Aqua Fortis*, or other Corrosive Liquors; which abstracted from the Precipitate

cipitate, that being sublimed the re-
 sult is said to be *Mercurius Dulcis* and
 sold for such, and it may be so: but
 yet such Preparations are (not with-
 out Reason) liable to suspicion, It
 not being advisable to permit processes
 of this nature to be varied at pleasure
 by any Ignorant, Conceited, Coverous
 Operator; for although the Medicines
 may possibly prove more effectual than
 when prepared after the common Me-
 thod, yet I fear they are often suffici-
 ently noxious. And this perhaps is the
 occasion of so many miscarriages in the
 use of the Shop-Chymical Remedies;
 which prepared after the usual Me-
 thod, would have displayed salutary,
 rather than such pernicious effects. I am
 unwilling to discover more of these
 fraudulent tricks, lest I should inform
 some of them, whom a happy igno-
 rance only hath kept from putting them
 in execution: yet the Sophistification
 of the Cremor, or Crystals of *Tartar*
 (which come so frequently in use)
 with

with *Alom*, and the vending common *Copperas* or *English Vitriol* for the *Salt* or *Vitriol* of *Steel* are such notorious Cheats that I cannot but mention them. And to pass over the rest, Chymical Essential Oyls which are so often Sophisticated, that I never met with any Venal which was not so abused; and my skilful Friends have often complained to me that they never found, any sincere unmixed Chymical Oyl, in the Shops either of the Druggists, Chymists, or Apothecaries. I remember that formerly I made many of those which were of daily use in Medicine, keeping some parcels by me; that comparing them with the Venal Oyls, I might learn whether I was imposed on. This precaution was thus far useful to me, as it instructed me that unless I would injure my Patient, I ought not to make use of any of these Oyls; unless presented me by my own Laboratory, or by Friends in whom I could absolutely

ly confide: Those which We, and the
 Apothecaries, or Druggists borrow
 of the Chymists enjoying little of the
 Taste, and less of the Vertues of those
 Subjects, out of which they are pre-
 tended to be Extracted, being usually
 mixed with a far greater portion of the
 Oyls of *Turpentine*, *Spike*, or rotten de-
 cay'd *Lemons*, of which as I and others
 have observed many of the Chymists
 make great quantities. Which recalls
 into my mind what once happened to
 me: Having occasion once to buy a
 great number of *Lemons*, I enquired of
 the Merchant how he disposed of those
 that were rotten, and unsound; who
 Answered me, that nothing was lost,
 the Chymists and Apothecaries buy-
 ing all that refuse Trash which he
 could not otherwayes vend, to make
 Oyls and Syrups: which did not a little
 confirm me in my suspicions of their
 unworthy Practices. And surely such
 as these I have mentioned, will deter
 those Physicians that have any respect
 for

for their Patient's Health and own reputation, from trusting to those Remedies of the Shops, which the Apothecaries have of Mercenary Chymists, or Common Operators.

But suppose these Chymical vulgar Medicines are prepared with the greatest care and honesty, there are besides them, many noble Remedies, which do as much exceed them, as they, the common Syrups, or Electuaries; such are those which great Chymists call the lesser *Artana*, The greater being it seems no less then their renowned Elixir, the Universal Medicine, and the Alkahest or great Solvent which they affirm many have actually possessed. How true this latter assertion is makes not for our purpose: But as for what concerns the former, I my selfe can affirm it. These generous Remedies have been hitherto industriously concealed by their Possessors from the Apothecaries and common Chymists, knowing that they would make a preposterous use of them; but should

should Physicians put themselves in a
 Method that they can have any Chymi-
 cal Preparation, which shall be disco-
 vered to them, faithfully and skilfully
 prepared, they would soon be divul-
 ged: which would be much to the bene-
 fit both of the Physician and Patient,
 they being more sure and sudden in
 their Operation than any other what-
 soever, and are of much greater extent,
 one single Remedy often curing many
 diseases that have any affinity with
 each other. Such are the Essences of
 Plants made by the union of their Vo-
 latile Spirits, Essential Oyles, and fixed
 Salts, Volatile Salt, or Spirit of Tar-
 tar, Tincture of Corals, Essences of
 Pearles, and Crabs Eyes, *Basilius Va-*
lentinus's Tincture of Antimony, his
 Mineral Bezoar, *Tinctura Lili*, *Hel-*
mont's Elixir Proprietatis, his *Laudanum*,
 his *Aroph*, the Volatile Spirit of *Vitri-*
ol, the Anodine Sulphur of *Vitriol*, its
 Essential Oyle the Tincture of *Gold: &c.*
 All which I have seen, and can witness
 that

that they have had extraordinary effects. And there are many such or better in the hands of discreet Persons, who are nothing so reserved and invidious as the generality of Chymists (how deservedly I know not) are taxed to be. For I have heard several of them, persons of great note and honour, profess their readiness to communicate what they know in this kind, to any Society of sober, Industrious Physicians that would oblige themselves to use, as they see occasion in their Practice, such noble Remedies as they will direct them to prepare. Now is it reasonable Physicians should neglect these advantages of improving their faculty, only to gratify an ingrateful, idle, careless generation, by whom they and their Patients are so highly injured that no Persons who have any sense of Honour or Honesty can further trust them, till they give sufficient testimony of their Reformation: which what it is, shall be anon mentioned. Another Remedy may be applyed, and which

which perhaps were most advisable; that is, for Physicians to prepare their own Physick, whether Chymical or what is commonly called *Galenical*: but of this more hereafter.

Another thing the Physicians deservedly blame in the Apothecaries, is their enhauncing the Prizes of Medicines so much above what they might in Reason expect; about which the Physician doth not so much concern himself, because it hath a bad influence on him: as on the account of his Patient; though certainly if Apothecaries were more modest in the Prizing their Physick, the Patient could be more liberal to the Physician. Whereas on the contrary the Apothecary holds them at such unreasonable rates that in most courses of Physick, he gains more than his Master, how deservedly let others determine; though in my Opinion were their pay proportionated to their care and honesty, I doubt they would gain little besides shame and reproaches. But the Apothecaries Bills must be paid

paid without abatement; otherwise there shall be more clamour than if twenty Physicians went unpaid: but with how much regret they are discharged, almost every Physician can witness, most of them being daily troubled by their Patients with complaints of their Apothecary, which it is not in their power to redress. Now several things contribute to, or are the occasional Causes of this universal Grievance: The Number, Pride, or Covetousness of the Apothecaries; and that prizes are not set on their Medicines.

For Apothecaries, the Physicians procuring it being reduced into a company were at first few; and therefore having full employment could afford their Medicines at moderate prizes: but being since that time increased to a great number, each person bringing up two, three or more, That employment which was before in a few hands became more dispersed; so that a very
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small portion thereof falls to the share of some; and indeed very few of them, have more than they can manage.

Now the Sick must maintain all these, for although there be no occasion for a Sixth-part; Yet they must all live handsomely, as those that account themselves Physicians Fellows: to supply which Expense they have no other way than to exalt the prizes of their Medicines; and stil the less they are employ'd the higher they must prize them: otherwise they could not possibly subsist, unless they become Physicians and Prescribe as well as prepare, to which practices they are not only propense but are initiated in them, as we shall see in the sequel of this Discourse.

Now would it not be much better, if it were with us as in some parts of *Germany*? Where the Magistrates of many Cities, and I think Territories, agree upon a certain number of Apothecaries, so many as they can apprehend are necessary, all the rest being exclu-

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ded; and must either seek other seats, or be content for a small Salary to work under those that are allowed. The number of the Apothecaries thus limited, is beneficial to themselves in that they never want employment; and to the Patient, who for the same reason hath his Physick at cheaper rates. I hope so manifest an advantage will invite us to imitate them which would not only be a great ease to the Patient, but also should be desired by the Apothecaries themselves if they consulted their own Interest. For if the future increase of their number bear any proportion to what is already added thereto since they were Constituted a Company, the Physician need not oppose them, they must necessarily fall off themselves; unless they meet with some Extraordinary support which cannot be at Present foreseen nay scarcely imagined: but they are so intent on their private gain that I do them an injury in proposing to them the good of the Publick

lick

lick or of their Company; especially when it will diminish their present profit. Therefore, since here is so little hopes that they will reform themselves, others must take upon them that troublesome and ingratefull task; and next to the Magistrate I know not who are more capable of this than the Physicians: as will be seen when we come to the Remedies which shall be proposed in order to the prevention of this and other inconveniences, of which they are the Causes

Another bad Property the Apothecaries have, is their Insinuating many things to the prejudice of an Honest Physician among their Patients; to whom the Apothecary endears himself by the frequent access he hath to them, and some little pieces of Officioufness, as applying of Blisters Leeches, Plasters, or some such trivial business, which might be as well performed by any Nurse that is used to attend Sick people: so that a Physi-

tian, whose Name and Interest is not very considerable, is in a great measure at their Mercy; which is such, that he may rest assured if he be a stranger to the Patient, or have not so great an Interest in him as the Apothecary, and if this have no immediate dependance on him, that if he be never so little distasted, he will employ all his Skill and Interest to ruine him in the Opinion of his Patient, and Introduce Himselfe or another Physician that shall be more compliant in his stead. Now one thing which touches an Apothecary to the Quick, is Detracting, as they call it, from the goodness of their Medicines (although how speaking truth should be Detraction, I understand not) against which no exception must be made, though the Patients Lives lye at stake. Another cause of their displeasure is, if they are reproved for setting immoderate Prizes on their Medicines: or which amounts to the same thing (I

mean

mean the lessning of their Gain) if the Physician prescribes a few Medicines; and those either commonly known to be cheap, and especially if he gives the Patients Directions to make their own Physick, as if it be the Decoction or Infusion of a Simple or two : or if he cures them by a Regular Diet. For by this means, little Profit coming to the Apothecary, you cannot blame him that he thinks himself highly injured, or affronted, and seeks to be Revenged on that unworthy Physician, who prefers the Good of the Patient before the Benefit of the Apothecary. Whereupon he suggests to the Patient, that this Physician is a Man of mean Parts, of moderate Knowledge, of little Repute; that the Things he prescribed are very Slight, and altogether unlikely to effect what the Physician designs; that if he would be advised by him, some other Physician should be consulted, which yet is not very frequent : for

they do most of them redeem Opportunities, of imposing themselves on the Patient ; who certainly makes a goodly exchange when he parts with a Sober, Judicious Physician for a Confident, Daring, Empty, Bragadocio Apothecary.

This Consideration brings to my remembrance another particular, which is the last complaint we shall make of Apothecaries ; and that is their taking on them the Practice of Physick, *Quis Credit hac ?* It will seem hardly Credible to Sober, Judicious people that have not observed the course of the World : and I confess it amazes me when I behold a Company of such Ignorant persons, dare at so great an Undertaking. I wonder, First, how they had the Confidence to attempt it ; and having made so fair an Essay, that they did not Clandestinely manage those unwarrantable Practices, creep into Corners and Oblige to Secrecie: But to com-

commit all this in the face of the Sun, when Challenged, be so far from Excusing and Retracting that they should publicquely avow, acknowledge, and Glory in their shame, is a piece of Insolence that I could never have imagined a Society of men should ever have been guilty of. That a private man should so far degenerate, is no unusual thing; but this is the first Rank of men that ever in *England* did generally revolt from their Masters, and greatest Benefactors; and they are indeed so rare an example, that they deserve to be Registred in the black Catalogue, if not of Perfidious, yet at least of Ingrateful Persons, from whence without some general Repentance and Reformation, their names will never be Cancelled.

But amongst all these Prodigies nothing doth more excite my Admiration, than the consideration that any Persons dare confide in them, for whence can it be imagined they should derive

this Skill, to which they are such high pretenders, That especially the more antient among them, boldly affirm they have many advantages over young unexperienced Physicians, and stand on even ground with the elder. Did ever those Physicians that were a means of constituting them a Company, and procuring for them such Priviledges, suspect that in the same Century, some of their own Profession should be forced to take Pen in Hand and determine the Controversie, whether They or the Apothecaries are more fit for the Practice of Physick? One would think this should be like those common Notions which are said to be Imprinted in the Minds of all men, As that the Whole is more than the Part, &c. so methinks every Man that is asked of the Question in hand, who understands what Physicians, and what Apothecaries commonly are, should as easily determin which is fitted for, and which ought to be excluded from Practice

Practice, as to tell us that One and Two makes three; or that if we add equal parts to equal they are still equal. But lest we should be thought to Assume rather than Prove, or it be Objected that we are Precarious in our assertions, we shall give this Question a fair debate; and then we shall manifest the unworthy Artifices that Apothecaries use to depretiate and exclude the Physicians, to introduce, and ingratiate themselves.

As for what refers to the first, Apothecaries have this to plead for themselves. 'That it is unreasonable
'to deny them the liberty of Practi-
'cing, who understand the Symptoms,
'and Cures of Diseases; if not as well
'as some Physicians, yet better then ma-
'ny, at least than the young and unex-
'perienced. They have been present at
'the Death, and Recovery of many
'Patients; and therefore have had
'Opportunity to observe the course of
'the Distempers, and procedures of
'Phy-

‘ Physicians : That they have kept ex-
 ‘ act Diaries of these Transactions,
 ‘ What Medicines the Physician pre-
 ‘ scribed; especially if they proved
 ‘ succesful: That they want nothing of
 ‘ a Doctor but the bare title: That
 ‘ they are not destitute of this, amongst
 ‘ the people, the most competent Judge-
 ‘ es; who if they were not satisfied
 ‘ with their Abilities and Success, surely
 ‘ they would not salute them by that
 ‘ Name, which is conferred by the Uni-
 ‘ versities, rather upon those who
 ‘ have read Books than cured Disea-
 ‘ ses.

Not to answer to these frivolous al-
 legations, that on the account of some
 of these pretensions old Wives, or
 Nurses, and others, Farriers and
 Smiths, may pretend to the Name or
 Thing they are so ambitious of: Nor
 to tell them which is most certainly
 true, That the knowledge they derive
 from Doctors Prescripts is very un-
 certain, and fallacious: it being abso-
 lutely

lutely impossible for the best Physician to calculate a Medicine that shall be proper for all that are, or shall be subject to any one Disease; unless he were Possessor of the *Universal Remedy*, So great in the variety of Complexions, so many are the complications of Distempers, and so infinite are the variations of Circumstances: all which the Judicious Physician attends to, and which few Apothecaries are capable of Comprehending. The former being commonly men of more smart, piercing, natural Parts; and their Brains farther refined, purged from Prejudices, and well furnished with excellent, clear, and distinct Conceptions of things, for which they are beholding to an excellent Education: so that notwithstanding I have heard several of the Apothecaries confidently, (not to say impudently) affirm they were so thoroughly acquainted with such mens Practice, naming some eminent Physicians, that if they knew
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the Case, they would lay a Wage they did exactly Predict before they took Pen in Hand what they would Prescribe; when to my knowledge there is not so much difference between a shallow River and the profoundest Sea, as between these empty, light Fellows and those Grave admired Physicians, whose depths such light Shittle-Cocks, Cork and Feathers, are so unlike to sound, that it is not without much difficulty that they are made to penetrate the very Superficies. In short, to compare them with sober, judicious Physicians, is as preposterous, as to parallel the faint glimmering of an expiring Candle with the beauty and luster of the Sun in its Noon-day Glory. But we shall more clearly and distinctly perceive the vast difference between them, by comparing them both with the Idea of Medicine; and see which is the more likely to have it imprinted in their Minds, and display it in their Actions.

The

The design of the Physician, ought to be the preservation of Health and cure of Diseases. The Preservation of Health is best effected by a regular Diet, and the due use of those things which are called Non-naturals; to which may be added some small matter of Physick when there is a slight propension to a disease rather than a Disease formed. Now in this Part certainly the Physician is more understanding than the Apothecary, being bred a Philosopher; and must therefore probably (or he is much to blame) understand more of the Nature and properties of Meats and Drinks, of Air, Sleeping and Waking, Exercises, and Passions of the Mind, than the Apothecary who never addicted himself to these enquiries. Then as for the Cure of Diseases, it seems highly probable that they who are best acquainted with the Causes and Symptoms of Diseases, will apply Medicines more properly than others that cannot so well distinguish

guish, although possessed of the same Remedies. But we will wave this, although it would be very proper for our present purpose; and examine which are best furnished with Methods and Medicines in order to the Cure of Diseases.

Diseases are removed, either by Method, Specificks, *Arcana*, chiefly Chymical; or by a Practice mixed of Two or more of these. That Cure by Method which doth not interfere with the other by specificks, is when by Vertue of Medicines that have a Sensible Operation, such are Vomits, Purges, Salivating, Sweating, Diuretick, vesicating, Cordial Anodyne and Narcotick Remedies, (with the helps of Phlebotomy &c.) used in such a Method as the Physician apprehends most proper, the Diseases are removed. And that most Distempers might be Radically or Perfectly Cured by these judiciously prescribed without either specificks or Chymical *Arcana*, I am so far from doubting

Doubting that I could name some excellent Physicians, who have eminently signalized themselves only by Method. But then these (and indeed whosoever insists in this way must be such) were Men of most quick apprehensions Solid Judgements, knew when, what, how much, and in what order to prescribe, a little mistake hazarding the Patients Life in acute Distempers, either in over, or under doing; and how fit a Hair-brained, Careless or Ignorant Apothecary is for this Practice, is easily discerned.

As for Specificks by which we mean such Simples as being appropriated to a Disease, cure without any sensible Operation; probably by changing the ill texture of the Morbous matter into another more innocent and less incongruous with those parts which before were extreamly disaffected thereby. Now the great question is, how Physicians come by the knowledge of these admirable Properties.

Surely

Surely they have it not by natural Instinct, much less can any pretend to Divine inspiration, I am not ignorant that some talk of a *Medicina Adepta*, but the boldest and most talkative Apothecary I ever yet met with, had not the slightest Pretensions to it; and 'no wonder for till they leave off their fraudulent unworthy Practices, of all men I know in the world, they have the least Reason to expect revelations in this kind, supposing there were such. Well then, since there are no other means besides, Physicians must derive this knowledge from Communication, either of living or dead Physicians; or from their own Experience and Observations, and indeed I believe they are not a little beholding to the writings of those that preceded them: wherein yet this Knowledge is so scattered, that great Labour, Industry and Sagacity must be employed before any Physician can arrive to an ability of Curing most Distempers by means of Specificks. Now that the

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Apothecaries are like to be Possessors of this Treasure, will appear very improbable; If we consider that they do not trouble themselves to search any other Records than they themselves have made of Physicians, Prescripts; and besides they are great Enemies of Cures by Specificks, because that notwithstanding they personate the Doctors: yet their gain comes in by the Trade of an Apothecary, which this way of Cure doth much impair. And therefore by their good-will they would neither allow of it in others, nor practice it themselves if they were able; from which they are so remote, that all the Physicians in *England*, can hardly bear it into most of their heads, that any thing should effect a Cure without Evacuating sensibly the Material Cause of the Disease: and therefore they deal chiefly in Purges, Vomits, &c. And how judiciously they manage these instruments, we shall hereafter make inquiry.

A third course whereby Diseases are said to be cured, are Chymical Arcana: Such were the *Mercurius Diaphoreticus* of *Helmont* and *Paracelsus*, the *Ignis* or *Sulphur Veneris*, the highly exalted Tincture of Gold, the Mineral *Laudanum* of *Paracelsus*, and other great Medicines which those renowned Chymists, *B. Valentinius*, *R. Lully*, *R. Bacon*, *Paracelsus*, *Helmont* and Others were said to have had in their Possession; and to have used with incredible Success. These noble Remedies curing without any Evacuation (besides ordinary Diseases) those that had then the Repute of being incurable: such were the *Gout*, *Dropisie*, *Stone*, *Leprosie*, and other formidable Distempers. It is not my intention at present to spend time in inquiring after the truth of this Tradition, whether these Persons were actually possessed of these Remedies, and whether by their means they effected such great Cures: Or whether such Medicines may be procured. I shall only insist on this that

if any of them can be obtained by Labour, Skill, and Industry, the Physicians are much more like to be possessed of them than Apothecaries, trifling Chymists, or mean Operators. Many of them having been long conversant with Chymical Operations, and having not spared for any expence of Money, Time, or Trouble, are now so thoroughly acquainted with the Principles of that Art; and have rendered Nature so familiar, that they design few things which they do not effect: and I can say from my own Knowledge that the Productions of their Furnaces, have been as considerable as of any sort of Men whatsoever that do publickly appear in the World. So that if there be any thing in Chymistry useful and noble, what should hinder their bidding fair for the possession thereof? Besides, there are many Antient, and Younger Physicians who dayly ingage in these Enquiries; and the whole Colledge of Physicians is so concerned for the promoting

moting this usefull part or appennage of Medicine, that they do intend publicly to promote it by associated endeavours. And notwithstanding what hath been said to the contrary, I am Confident there is not a Society of men in *Europe* more considerable; not only for that knowledge which we owe to Books, for their insight into Philosophy, Skill in Anatomy; and all Natural History which is allowed by most: but even for an intimate acquaintance with Chymistry, which though some have denyed them; yet how unjustly the World will be soon (if it be not already) convinced.

Now it remains that we discourse of the Fourth and last way of Practice, which we said was composed of those already mentioned, and indeed this is the most frequent; for, although I know there are some few, who confine themselves to that which I call strict Method, others to Cure by Specificks, a Third sort who only use Chymical Medicines

Medicines, which they are pleased to dignifie with the glorious Title of *Arcana* (although I fear they are far from being so) and perhaps there may be some Persons in the World, who have those that are really such; yet I have observed that the generality of sober judicious Physicians, compose out of all these a Practice which per-takes somewhat of every one: yet so, that Medicines which have a sensible Operation, Specificks and Chymical Remedies, have all a subserviency to Method, that is, they observe a certain order in the use of all these, which is so advantageous, that inverted or transposed, they have not the same effect. Thus perhaps first they pre-mise some general evacuations, where-by the Body being freed from impu-rities, the Stomach after strengthened with digestives, the Vital Spirits in-vigorated by Cordials or a Regular Diet, Specificks then easily perfect the Cure, which perhaps would be

compleat neither without them, nor with them only, without the mentioned helps. Now he that hath but half an Eye must necessarily discern, that much of judgment, much of contrivance is requisite in these Cases; and indeed so much, that it is well known many (and I hope that it may be affirmed of most) Physicians, make a History of the Patients condition, or Case: and then after due Consideration of all circumstances, determine to proceed after a certain Method from which they do not recede without great occasion given them, as the intervening of some accidents, which Humane, Wisdom, and Care, could neither foresee, nor prevent. Now how Apothecaries, or indeed any others that have not a solid Judgment, quick Apprehension, and fixed indefatigable Mind, can sustain so much labour be capacitated for so great undertakings I cannot imagine. And they that know them did never suspect they

they would give themselves so much trouble to obtain what they can purchase at a cheaper rate. For they design not so much the doing good, as that the People should entertain an opinion that they do it, which is no hard matter to arrive at, being in this like *Machiavel's* Politician (though in other things silly enough) who is to make a profession of Vertue and Piety; but not to be really so; for many things will be swallowed that are proposed under the pretence of Vertue and Piety, by unwary, well-meaning People, who are not apt to suspect others because free from Designs themselves: whereas a strict profession of Religion and Vertue will hinder the Politician from doing many things which might prove highly advantageous to him. The Parallel is easie and obvious. Besides, as it is easie to obtain an Opinion of Vertue or Piety, but to be really and truly Vertuous, requires much Sweat and great diligence; so it

is with Learning, nothing being more
 casie then to impose on the incautious,
 credulous Vulgar, who believes he
 knows most, who makes the largest
 profession. And at this the Apotheca-
 ries are excellent; good success so
 rarely anticipating their promises, that
 I scarcely ever heard such a thing
 happen'd; but how devoid they are
 of solid Knowledge, how free from
 Care, and empty of Skill, or what-
 soever is requisite for the making
 good their pretences, is so well known
 to them that dive into the depth of
 their silly intrigues: and they are so
 numerous, that it is needless to repeat
 what is imprinted on so many memo-
 ries.

But we shall now proceed to enu-
 merate and descant on the particulars,
 wherein the Physician seems to have
 some advantages over the Apotheca-
 ries, and indeed all other whom Na-
 ture and a good Education have not
 fitted for so great an employment.

r. It seems very probable that Diseases will be better cured by them that are acquainted with the Frame and Fabrick of Man in his sound Constitution, with the Nature and Properties of the Humors and Ferments in the Body, that understand (which they chiefly do by Analogy from what they have observed without Man) how these are depraved and perverted, What was the Occasion, or Instrument. Whereby certainly they may nearer conjecture what is most fit to oppose the cause of these Irregularities, and to remove their Effects. This is no new Notion, it having been the perswasion of former, and later Ages, That the Physician is to begin where the Philosopher ends; And that the Physicians have made great advantages of Experiments and Observations, is most evident from their own confession: but chiefly manifested in many of those Noble productions of their Brains, which will perpetuate

ate their Names, and oblige all Mankind that shall succeed them. Of how great use was that admirable Invention of *Harvie's* concerning the Blood Circulation? and, What great advantages may we derive from the Inventions of *Pecquet*, *Glisson*, *Ent*, *Wharton*, *Bartholine*, *Willis*, *Needham*, *Lower*, and other excellent Anatomists. Some have gained to themselves immortal Renown by their voluminous, yet judicious Histories of Plants, Animals, and Minerals; and indeed Natural History, and Philosophy have been scarcely cultivated by any besides Physicians: who were so considerable that the deservedly admired *Descartes*, not long before his death, was deeply engaged in the study of Anatomy, Chymistry, and other appendices of Medicine; designing all his Philosophical toyl, only for the good and benefit of Man; intending to employ his later time in the investigation of the Nature of Diseases, and their

their Cures. Neither did a high Birth;
 and Quality, an Excellent Education,
 a plentiful Estate, and great Reputati-
 on, dispose that Noble Experimental
 Philosopher Mr. Boyle to think him-
 self above the Profession of Physick;
 which cannot be questioned, after he
 hath given so publique a testimony, as
 the accepting a degree therein, freely
 proffered him by one of the most Fa-
 mous Universities in *Europe*: whose
 expectations he hath not deceived, ha-
 ving ever since applied himself to im-
 prove that noble Faculty, with such
 success, that notwithstanding what
 some few in their mistaken Zeal urge
 to the contrary, it is well known that
 most acknowledge themselves highly
 obliged to him for what he hath al-
 ready published; and wait not with-
 out some Impatience for what he hath
 promised in the same kind. And how
 great advantages a Physician skilled
 in Philosophy hath over others, He
 hath so clearly, and copiously evinced

in many parts of these excellent Discourses concerning the usefulness of Experimental Philosophy, (to which I refer the Reader) that he hath saved me a Labour of saying more on that Subject, which would be only a Recapitulation of what he has there at large delivered, and which will be better understood in his own words; and probably make a deeper Impression than any thing I can add. So that now nothing remains for me to do, but to draw this Corollary: That till Apothecaries become better Philosophers, its very probable there will be better Physicians: but I proceed.

2. It is not unlikely that they who in their cures attend to the Age, Sex, strength of the Patient, time of the Year, their Constitution or Complexion, Antipathies or Aversions, Diseases preceding in them or their Parents, and the present Complication of Diseases (for they are not frequently

frequently solitary) that they, I say, who
 attend to those Circumstances, should
 be more succesful in their Cures than
 those that have little regard of them;
 for whatsoever the Apothecaries think,
 the Physicians are of the mind that
 all these are material, if not necessary
 to the Cure of Diseases. And al-
 though the Apothecary not hearing the
 Physician enquire after all those parti-
 culars, himself also neglects them; Yet
 nevertheless the Physician considers
 them, having such a habit that he doth it
 intuitively rather than discursively, e-
 specially if he were formerly with the
 Patient: but the Apothecary looks on
 this as work of Supererogation, and
 thinks 'tis only to please and humour
 the Sick, and perswade them of their
 care. But that this surmise is ground-
 ed rather on Ignorance than Sagaci-
 ty we shall now manifest. To avoid
 Prolixity I shall instance only in one
 particular, and that is the Complication
 of Diseases; about which the Physi-

tian is (not without just cause)
 marvellously solicitous. And in
 deed this is so nice a Speculation, that
 it sometimes almost puzzles the most
 perspicacious Physicians; and is far out of
 of the *Apothecarie's* Ken, who yet pre-
 sumes he can see into a Millstone as
 far as another man, and so he may;
 but in this case it is with the Physi-
 cian and Apothecary, as 'tis said to be
 with two persons diversly qualified
 looking into a Magical Glass; where
 the one sees a great variety of ob-
 jects, and the other nothing but a trans-
 parent Glass, and will not believe
 but what the other sees is by the help
 of Imagination's Spectacles; which ob-
 jection, how true soever it may be in
 that case, is not in this. Or, (to
 make a comparison less liable to be
 censured) It is with Apothecaries and
 Physicians as with two Persons that
 contemplate the *Galaxy*, or milky way,
 the one with his naked Eye, the other
 by the assistance of a Telescope; That

to the former seems only a confused white cloud, which to him who veiw^s it through his Tube appears to be a great company of Stars: which he perceives little less distinctly, than he doth by his Unarmed Eye, those that are most conspicuous among that innumerable Company, wherewith the Heavens are most gloriously bespangled. But that I may render this more manifest, I will descend to particulars, and shew first that there is frequently if not usually a Complication of Distempers in the Diseased. Secondly, That the Apothecaries are not often sensible thereof.

It hath been judiciously observed by *Piso*, *Bontius* and others that in *Brasile*, &c. where their way of living is most simple, the Temper of their Air constant, their exercise much, and their hereditary Distempers few; That their Diseases also are few, and short, for the most part simple (being scarcely ever complicated) seldom dangerous, the
Crisis

Crisis certain and visible, so that they rarely dye, except of Accident, or old age : whereas on the contrary, in these *Northern Regions* our Diseases are many and various, Crisis uncertain, and oft-times scarcely sensible; and which I chiefly aim at, Diseases are variously complicated. And indeed how can it possibly be otherwise when we are generally very irregular in our Diet; so that I know not whether we are more injured by the great quantities, or ill Qualities of the food we live on : When we sometimes too much indulge our selves in sleep, at other times allow our selves too little, and that at unseasonable times, when we lead for the most part sedentary lives, exercising either too little, or immoderately; not to say how intemperate some are in their Passions, and insatiate in their Lusts : besides the Air in which we breathe is as uncertain as the Winds that blow, which suddenly changes from heat to cold

cold, moisture to dryness; and on the contrary, cannot but leave ill Impressions behind them, to which we may add Hereditary Distempers. For what is more frequent than for weakly diseased Parents to be further tormented by seeing their Children labour under the same Infirmities; which are either rivited into the Principles of their Constitution, or sucked in with their milk: from which dispositions they are hardly, if ever freed. Now any one of all these is sufficient to change the nature of a Disease, which in their absence would have appeared in a much different form: So that there being in most of those who are surprized with any distemper especially *Acute* a *previous*, ill *Diathe-sis*, or Constitution of the Blood, a depraved ferment in the Stomach, and these very various, we must apply our selves after different methods to cure Diseases, which spring from different causes. Thus for instance in *Fevers*,

H

Agues

Agues, and many other Distempers, it is not sufficient to remove their occasional Cause, and to allay the inordinate commotion of the Blood; but he that will approve himself a true Physician must (in a great measure at least) free the Patient from that habit of Body, which exasperated the former Distemper, and disposes still to the same, or worse. For when the Blood is depauperated or the spirits oppressed by more numerous Saline, or Earthy parts, on every light occasion the whole Body is disorder'd; and indeed the great skill of a Physician is seen in the cure of Chronical Diseases, which is too far out of an Apothecaries reach: that although I have made strict enquiry, I solemnly profess, I never heard of any one cured by them. If then they are unable to cure Chronical Diseases, which are those that chiefly reign in *England*; and if they are absolutely unfit to deal with any acute Distempers where there

there is ~~any~~ Complication, Why are they allowed to practice Physick? With which if they must be conversant, let them addict themselves to the cutting of Corns, and drawing of Teeth, which do resemble the cure of Diseases; and that may perhaps in some measure gratifie their petulant Fancy at a cheaper rate by spoiling a part, than hazarding the whole, which is now their daily practice.

3. It is no inconsiderable part of a Physician's Office, to know when nothing is to be done, but the whole matter committed to Nature, the Physician supervising, and taking care to correct all Nature's aberrations; and if there be occasion, to give her some little assistance. For Diseases seize on many in whom Nature is so strong that after some conflicts the Aggressor is expelled without any assistance from Physick, according to the Aphorism of Hippocrates: *Natura sunt morborum Mediatrices*. Whereas should a Phy-

fician in these cases administer any
 active Medicines, or make use of other
 pretended helps (suppose Phlebotomy)
 unless by his great Sagacity, or the
 obviousness of the Distempers
 cause, he applies a Remedy very su-
 table (for which there is yet little occa-
 sion) We cannot imagine otherwise, than
 that Nature being weakened by evacua-
 tions, or diverted from her usual Me-
 thods by Medicines; which if not ap-
 propriated, will rather disorder or debi-
 litate than bring relief, in the interim
 the distempers will proceed by insen-
 sible degrees and at length may become
 so powerful, that Nature with the help
 of the most generous Remedies cannot
 prevail: where if She had not been
 unreasonably weakened or diverted She
 would have obtained an easy Victo-
 ry.

As for Example there is a well-
 known Disease, wherewith Children
 are as frequently afflicted, as by *Agues*
 or the *Rickets*; which soone deprives
 the

the poore Infants of their colour;
 makes them lose their appetite; they
 sleep little; and that unquietly; they
 will be exceeding Thirsty, droward
 or Peevish, and seem to have greivous
 sick or fainting fits: and after they
 have long laboured under this distem-
 per, they have usually great swellings
 or hardness of the Belly, and are so
 emaciated that they seem not much
 unlike to little Skeletons; and yet not-
 withstanding all these threatening
 Symptoms I have seldome, if every
 known Children miscarry who were
 forbidden the use of Physick till freed
 from most of them (for they vanish of
 themselves) and then gently purged for
 a few dayes successively, they not only
 recovered their former health but have
 often given me occasion to dispute with
 my self, whether they were not rather
 better than worse for the distemper
 thus managed. Whereas on the contrary
 others that have been disordered and
 weakened by evacuations, Cordials, or

fuges, appointed by the Apothecaries
 or other unskillfull practitioners, (who
 are very ready to prescribe and Impose
 Physick on these occasions) although
 to appearance they are freed from their
 troublesome companion; yet, withall
 soon after, many exchange this life for
 a better: and those that survive, are
 usually weakly, more subject to Rickets,
 Convulsions, and other Distempers,
 than those in whom the Disease was
 permitted quietly to take its course
 without interruption. The same hath
 also been observed in elder Persons
 labouring under Quartain Agues. Nei-
 ther is it without a great deal of trouble
 that Physicians observe so many mis-
 cary of acute simple Feavers, who
 committing themselves to the care of
 Apothecaries, and rather unskillful
 pretenders to Medicine, often receive
 dispatches out of this World, by
 Food, or Physick preposterously ad-
 ministered, rather than from their Di-
 stemper; which will appear evident to
 them

them who consider that a Fever is usually Nature's Instrument, or an Effulscion of the Blood, caused by the Vital Principle, in order to the expelling of some substance mixt with the Blood, or other Humors in the Body: whose presence perverts Nature's regular actions, and thereupon is opposed by those active parts, through whose mediation She performs her operations. Now in most of those conflicts Nature would be victorious, subdue or expel her intestine Enemy, if She were recruited sparingly with the liquid part of Her ordinary and daily supply: and be not diverted by gross Food, whose digestion while the Spirits attend the Morbous matter, exceeding the remainder in quantity or energy, may gain great advantage, either by vitiating the Organs, or by reducing the Humors to their own Nature by a depraved Ferment; and the Stomach wanting Spirits copious enough to assist it in digesting

the Food, dismisses it crude: or being it self unaffected, imparts thereunto some noxious qualities, which are again communicated to the Blood, whose impurities it thereby increases, extremely hazarding, and sometimes over-powring the Principle of Life. The same happens by Medicines unsuitable to the Distemper, or unreasonably exhibited; as if in the height of a Fever one should advise to hot Medicines, whereby more Fuel is added to the Fire, and the Disease rendered more formidable and difficult of cure than ever: or if in the declination of the same Distemper, when the Patient should be supported by Cordials, and relieved by Op-rates, whereby the Crisis, or separation of the peccant matter is most certainly and easily affected; if instead of these refrigerating Medicines, *Juleps*, *Clysters*, or other Coolers which weaken the Blood, depress the Spirits, and disable Nature for her intended

tended separation, whereby the Distemper runs into a Diuturnity, and if Life chance to be secured for the present, howsoever the Patient continues weak: and without great regularity, or exact observation of Diet, Exercise, and the other Non-Naturals, will become subject to some Chronical Distempers, whether Consumption, Scorbute, Dropfie, Jaundice, Scirrhus, Tumors, or Ulcers, which frequently succeed acute diseases, ill managed, and are seldome perfectly removed; at least not by the Apothecaries, who were the occasion of these, and are daily of many other Miscarriages; when they are consulted about Persons who would recover without the use of any, or with the help of little Physick. But as it is above their skill to know what Persons are thus affected; so it is contrary to their Interest to manage them aright; and therefore they neither can, nor will do it.

it. That they cannot, the faithful Character or Description we have given of them will render sufficiently probable; That they will not, may be easily believed, if we consider that the way of proceeding would diminish their Profit, which they do by no means approve, but will rather charitably obtrude store of Physick on all their Patients: and that sometimes so much to their prejudice, that they had better hire them at a dearer rate to be less officious.

4. Oftentimes persons seem to labour under several Diseases, when as really the whole Tragedy is acted by the same peccant matter, which is either translated from one part to another; and affecting them after different manners, the Symptoms are various and their Denominations different: or from differences in Age, Sex, previous habit of body, Complexion or Constitution, Strength of the Patient, Season

Season of the year, and other circumstances. Matter which hath the same Nature and Properties, may diversly affect the Persons thus discriminated; also according to Quantity and Degrees in the same Qualities it may diversly affect the body: and thereby occasion different Symptoms, which to the Unwary or Unskilful seem distinct Diseases, when as it is but one and the same matter variously displaying it self; and which may be removed or otherwise disposed of by one and the same Method or Medicine.

Thus for instance a great number of Diseases are caused by the redundancy of Acidities, which acid noxious juice being mortified, all those troublesome effects of its presence cease. Many Diseases there are which proceed from the obstruction of some part, such are *Apoplexy's*, *Lethargy's*, *Cerus*, *Catalepsia*, *Gutta Serena*, *Palsy's*, &c.

&c. Now those Methods and Medi-
 cines which will cure the most ob-
 stinate and dangerous of these, will so-
 metime fail to remove the rest. The
 same happens in *Convulsions*, *Epilepsy*,
Madness, *Hysterical* and *Hypochondri-
 cal Passions*, *Vertiginous Affections*,
Melancholy, &c. We also daily observe
 that many violent Fluxes, wherein the
 blood or other humours have the same
 cause and cure, all which proceed
 mostly from sharpness, thinness, or
 heat of the blood, are removed by
 Medicines answering the Indications of
 cooling, dulcifying or incrassating. Some
 of the Diseases thus cured, are im-
 moderate Fluxes in Women, Spitting
 and vomiting of blood, Periodical
 or other copious Evacuations thereof
 at the Nose, *Hæmorrhoids*, with the
 Urine, or by Stool in the Flux, com-
 monly called *Hepaticas*, and *Dysenteries*,
 to which we may add several sorts of
Diarrheas, *fluor albus*, *incontinentia*

Urina

much Spitting, Weeping, Co-
 lics, and Rheumes, of divers kinds.
 further, most simple, continued and
 intermittent *Favours* have very nearly
 the same way of Cure, although the
 body seems diversly affected by them:
 an evident Argument that their causes
 are little different. We might instance
 in Colical, and Iliack pains, and ma-
 ny other torments in the Stomach and
 Bowels, which seem to have their
 rise from the same Causes, and have
 almost the same Cure. Nay to pro-
 ceed still higher, What Analogy
 doth there seem to be between the
Walsie and the *Colick*? yet this often
 degenerates into that which also many
 other Diseases do; whereof I could
 give a large account: but shall re-
 fer it to a more convenient Opportuni-
 ty. We might proceed to shew how
 great an affinity, there is between ma-
 ny outward affections in their Causes
 and Cures: But because the care of
 such

such Diseases is denied by some to be long to Physicians; and because Apothecaries do scarcely ever intermeddle with the Chyrurgeons employment (which yet it is much more intricate then the Physicians) I shall pass over this Consideration.

Thus we have given a superficial account of those opportunities judicious Physicians have to discriminate themselves from ignorant pretenders by their discerning with great Celery, and Sagacity, how to act where all these are allways grievously perplexed, and often perfectly confounded; as is manifest in their wayes proceeding, which are usually so ridiculous and Irrational that they would give intelligent Physicians a full and pleasant Divertisement, if they could Indulge themselves therein: which they can by no means do, where their Errours and Miscarriages are so far from Innocent, that they do often

exceedingly hazard, and sometimes
 occasion the Misery, or Destruction
 of the unhappy credulous Patient.
 Which sad accidents dispose those ge-
 nerous Physicians, they neglected,
 rather to Pity and Compassion than
 to disport themselves, or look with
 Malicious Smiles on misfortunes; which
 they in some measure deserved, for
 being guilty of so egregious a piece
 of folly, as committing themselves
 to Ignorant, and Unskilful Practicio-
 ners, altogether unfit for so great a
 trust. And indeed it will excite Ad-
 miration in any judicious Person to
 observe what a Wild-Goose-Chase
 they go in most of the Cases we lately
 mentioned: sometimes applying a
 Remedy they have learned is proper
 for the Head-ach, then another for the
 Tooth, Stomach, or Heart-ach,
 Gripes, Flux, heats in the Head,
 and burning in the habit of the Body,
 Vertigo Asthma, and other semblan-
 ces

ces of Distempers which one and the same matter will often occasion. Now the sagacious Physician soon detects this Cheat, and immediately by one stroke or two at the root, intercepts the depraved Nourishment; so that all the other ill effects cease with the removal of their cause: whereas should he only attend to every particular symptom as the less discerning do, there would be no end, either of Physick or the Disease, which, 'tis very probable will receive a great aggravation by so many improper Remedies. For Physick is, or ought to be active; and if not appropriated to the distemper, it must necessarily work an effect contrary to that for which it was designed; so that if it do not abate of the Disease, 'tis more than likely to exasperate it, if it do not strengthen Nature actually, or consequentially; I mean by removing Impediments, it will certainly weaken Her.

V. It seems most evident,

*That many Diseases may be Cured
by a convenient Diet.*

AND if this be so great a truth as Physicians have hitherto generally esteemed it to be, then he that is acquainted with the Nature of Aliments, and the Process of Nutrition, will probably cure Diseases with greater certainty and less trouble to the Patient, than him that is utterly ignorant of both these: And who is more like to be a Possessor of this knowledge, than a judicious learned Physician? For,

I. He understands the Nature of Aliments, whether Animal or Vegetable; he knows that such among them as are most temperate, and have no sensible Operation are more agreeable to the body, and nourish more than others which abound with active parts, whose Purging Vomi-

N

tive

tive , Sweating , Diuretick, or other Qualities, render them unfit for Nutrition. As also, that most, if not all things that are used for food, although they be not active in so high a degree as others which come commonly in use for Medicine, that yet they often cause great alterations in the body, according to the quantity , quality, right, or unsuitable application thereof ; and find that the Cause and Cure of many, if not most Diseases, have their dependance on a good and regular , or a bad inordinate Diet. But this will be made more evident by descending to particulars. I think nothing can be more plain and evident , than that Onions, Shalutes, Horse-radish, Capers, Olives, Broom-buds, Pepper, Cinnamon, Nutmegs, Salt, Sugar, Butter, Vinegar, Wine, and Oyl, are active alterative substances ; and yet they are often taken alone, or variously compounded to make savory picquant Sauces which are supposed to pro-

mote

mote digestion by rendring the food
 more grateful, and by strengthening the
 ferment of the stomach. But besides
 these there are many Vegetables which
 come frequently in use among all peo-
 ple, and in some Countres with
 Bread, Cheese, and Milk are almost
 their only food, such are Melons, Pom-
 pions, Cucumbers, as also Turneps,
 Carrots, Parsnips, Skirrets, Radishes,
 Pease, Beans, Artichocks, and other
 Thistles, Asparagus, Hop-tops, Cab-
 bages, Coleworts, Cauliflowers,
 Comfry, Lettuce, Purslain, Parsly,
 Sage, Leeks, &c. (not to mention va-
 rious kinds of fruits) These are either
 boyled, or eaten crude; alone, or
 variously compounded according to
 pleasure, being rendred more grate-
 ful, or as is thought wholesome, by
 the addition of Butter, Vineger, Pep-
 per, or other of the mentioned active
 substances. I shall not insist on the
 great difference that there is in sub-
 stance and qualities, between Flesh

and Fish, the variety of both being unimaginal; especially if we consider the various wayes of preparing them for food, and the additaments that are used to render them more agreeable to the Palate: Concerning which Physitians have wrote intire Volumns. Now the body partaking of the nature of the Aliments (which I suppose no one will deny, or if they should, I could demonstrate it by unquestionable experiments and observations) They having such various qualities, and there being so great a variety in the complexions and constitutions of men, it will necessarily follow, that some of those Aliments may be contrary to a good sound constitution of body; & if a person indulge himself much in the use of them, his health will by degrees be impaired, and a bad texture or disposition of blood superinduced, which would have been prevented: and if recent, easily removed by suitable nourishment.

ment, especially if this regular good Diet be long continued.

Now the Physitian being better than any other person acquainted with the properties of most things that are commonly eaten, and with the temper of his Patient, can teach him what to eat, and which to avoid; what will prove beneficial to him, which are hurtful. Besides, he gives him some general Rules in reference to Diet, yet not so strict and severe, but that they may be easily without any trouble or inconvenience observed. These Rules may respect men either in a Healthful, Neutral, or Diseased state.

I. For a man in Health, the Physitian prescribes him not any set time or hours whercin he should take his repasts, only that he should not eat another plentiful meal, till what he eat before be well digested, and passed out of his stomach. Then for the Quality of his food, that it be such as

is most agreeable to his constitution and imployment; a gross food being most sutable to those that are of a strong robust, a more fine and delicate to such as have a more spare and weakly complexion: he allows them also such food as being long accustomed to, they find agreeable to them, there being Idiosyncracies or peculiarities in some men, whereby some food agrees well with them, which would be noxious to others seemingly of the same constitution. As for Quantity, that they should eat only so much as abates, not gluts their appetite; and after which they find themselves rather more than less lightsome than they were before eating: That its better to eat little and often, than much and at once; that as near as they can, they keep to an equality for substance, not quantity, making allowances for meats that have little nourishment, as subtracting from what are very nutritive, as Swines flesh, &c. And

if

if they live temperately , to exceed once or twice in a month in eating and drinking their ordinary stint, which is found to promote perspiration the great preserver of health, and enables the stomach to bear any accidental overcharge, there being few persons that can at all times command their Appetites ; and such a surplusage is dangerous to those that have long observed exactly a regular Diet, not varying the quantity of their food. Then lastly for Order, he advises that they should not eat immediately after any great exercise of body or mind , and that they avoid all those things which hinder the concoction or distribution of the nourishment, and use whatsoever promotes it. Some such general rules as these observed (abating hereditary and contagious Diseases which yet are in a great measure prevented by an orderly Diet, and are less dangerous when we lapse into them) will keep them

in perfect health : For then the food will be readily converted into good chyle, which conveyed into the veins, the blood not being overcharged with quantity, and the food being before well prepared and opened by the ferment of the stomach, becomes upon reiterated circulations, a most noble generous liquor, and in its passage through the brain a pure unmixed spirit will be sublimed or separated from it, free from preternatural acidities which cause many Diseases.

This subtle and sincere Liquor or Spirit supplies the Nerves and Muscles with what is necessary for Animal Actions, the Lungs, Stomach, Spleen, and other Viscera, And the parts destined for the Propagation of the Species with so much as is necessary to keep them in a due Tone and enable them to perform all these actions for which they were instituted. The rest of the blood visiting

being the most extream parts of the body, and others retired from sight, where *percolated* through *Parenchymous fibrous* or bony substances, it leaves with each part what is Congruous to it: And so long as this course is continued without interruption, health also will be uninterrupted.

Whereas on the contrary high Compounded nourishment, whose quantity and substance is often varied, especially if it be more then the Stomach can well digest, must by a *Mechanical* necessity cause Diseases. For if the quantity be greater then the ferment of the Stomach can dissolve the Chyle will enter the Blood Crude, and being more then that is used to assimilate at once, and not well opened by a previous digestion, it by insensible degrees depraves the best constitution, for then the blood supplies the Brain, Nerves, Viscera, and Musculous parts with unfutable Spirits, and nourishment which affecting them after an unusual

unusual manner, pain or somewhat worse, is in time the result of this bad or irregular Diet. Then for the quality of the food if it abound too much with Oily and Spirituous parts, it puts the blood into that great commotion or Ebullition we stile a Fever, if with cold Crude juyces as Melons, Cucumbers or Cherries, it sometimes extinguishes the Native-heat, and if the sick escape they are usually stigmatized by blotches or eruptions all over their bodies or in some particular parts, whereat the Morbous matter is excluded. Lastly, if Salt be predominant in the nourishment it causes various Maladies, especially of the *Genus nervosum* often occasions strange disorders in the whole mass of blood and sometimes Corrodes the External parts which it deforms and and tortures in Ulcers, Fistula's, Cancers and other painful, loathsome and formidable Diseases. All which might have been prevented, and if timely
care

care had been taken, cured by a suitable and orderly Diet. For an ill Crasis or Constitution of the blood doth not always, presently, display it self in such bad Syptoms as to deserve the denomination of a disease, this by Physitians is called a Neutral-state which may be first Checkt, and then redressed by Diet. For although if we will examine things strictly there is no middle between sickness and health, yet because it is so hard to find a Standard for either of them; therefore Physitians have agreed on this third, as an expedient the better to express their thoughts: so that we apprehend a man is in perfect health who is free from pain or any Indisposition, performs in his own and the Physitians opinion all Animal and Natural Actions as well as if he were in perfect health, we account a Neutral state to be a slight propension to a disease, when the ferment of the Stomach begins to be perverted, the blood somewhat de-

depraved, and yet no very ill Symptom appears, No function of the body is much hindered or interrupted at least not very sensibly ; As when by too strict and severe a diet the body begins to be Emaciated, the Nerves disaffected, or when by drinking too freely the body is inclining to a fever, drop sic or Consumption, to the same or other diseases , by eating frequently too much , or such food as suits not with the Stomachical Ferment being to it hard of Digestion, or meat endowed with any other ill quality : by frequent excesses crudities being accumulated which if they increase will display pernicious effects ; But if timely discerned may be conquered without the help of Physick. As to avoid Repetition I shall manifest under the next head.

But suppose that a Disease is sensibly formed : Let us examine then what Diet can contribute to the Cure, Moderation , or Palliation of the Distemper.

To

To avoid prolixity, I shall mention only some general wayes of Cure by Diet, on which any understanding person may expatiate in his mind.

It's so well known that many Indispositions are cured by Fasting or a spare Diet, that I need only mention it. Others are cured by a Diet exact for the quantity of food which hath laudible qualities, for what is taken being no more then can be well overcome and dissolved by the stomach, this conveyed into the blood soon renders it more spirituous, whereby what is crude is either digested, or carryed off in perspiration; so that Nature being duely fed with a constant supply of good spirits, the bad texture of the blood is soon exchanged for one more innocent. Thus Consumptions and other Chronical Distempers have been frequently cured. Many diseases are overcome by a Diet contrary to the peccant matter; as
Hecticks

Heſticks by a Milk Diet ; Fevers by
 Priſans ; ſome Conſumptions by
 Snails, and other glutinous ſubſtances ;
 Hot Diſeaſes by moiſt cold, Cold and
 moiſt by a hot and drying Diet. Some
 Diſeaſes are alwayes moderated and
 often cured by ſubſtracting from the
 liquid part of the nourishment, as
 Catarrhs ; others by allowing it more
 plentifully, as in that dreadful Diſeaſe
 called by Phyſitians *Cholera Morbus*,
 wherein if the Patient take great
 quantities of Poſſet-drink, or thin
 weak Chicken-broath, thoſe affright-
 ful ſymptoms of Vomiting and Loofe-
 neſs ſoon ceaſe, the liquor dilating that
 corroſive ſaline matter, which prick-
 ing the coats of the ſtomach, and in-
 teſtines, cauſed thoſe violent workings
 upwards and downwards. And this is
 a remedy ſo certain that I never yet
 obſerved it to fail, and others who
 have had longer time and more oppor-
 tunities to make Obſervations than my
 ſelf, and particularly he whom I take

to be the first inventor of this easily parable effectual Remedy, do unanimously affirm, *That it hath scarcely ever frustrated their Expectations*; and yet we know that many miscarry of this distemper, even where the pretended generous Remedies of the Chymists, and best methods of those whom they style *Galenists* have been employed.

But to proceed: Another way of curing Diseases by Diet, and the last I shall mention, is with some sorts of food, which by a hidden or specific property cure Diseases. Our instances shall be only in the Vegetable Kingdom, whose Simples are numerous, and they differ from each other in many sensible properties, as Taste, Smell, Figure, Colour, and their internal qualities are far more numerous; and between them also there are great differences and contrarities. Some are of a hot, others cooling, moist, or dry Nature; some are saline,
others

others oily, &c. And most of them have several of these properties in some degree, all which may be suted to the removal of whatsoever is contrary to, and less powerful than themselves : now Diseases, if simple, are only an excess in one quality or other, which an appropriate nutritive simple judiciously applyed, if the quantity be sufficient, and especially if often reiterated, doth usually redress. To make this more cleer, I will give one or two obvious examples of the same disorders caused and cured by different Vegetables. It's well known, that Parsly eaten in a small quantity is apt to exasperate diseases of the Eye, and there are other Plants which prove more healing than that is hurtful, witness Eybright : And it hath been observed that even Turneps render the sight more acute, cure moderate Inflammations, and are commended by Physitians to be of frequent use while persons are under cure for the

Gutta

Gutta Serena, Recent Cataracts, & other diseases incident to that tender part. But this will appear most evidently in the *Sea Scorbut* which is contracted usually by a bad Diet, salt meats, and nastiness; sometimes extremity of heat or cold combining to exasperate it. 'Tis hardly to be imagined how deplorable a condition those persons that are highly afflicted with this distemper seem to be in, being to appearance absolutely incurable by the most generous Medicines, helped with the advice of the greatest Physicians; yet such slight things as the juice of Limons, Fresh meat, but especially plenty of green Herbs presently dispell all these horrid threatening Symptoms, and that so suddenly that they seem to be cured by a Charm, those who were not able to stir a limb, were exercised with many grievous Maladies, in a week recovering perfectly their former health; which perhaps long courses of Physick would

O

never

never have restored to them in a much longer space. And we find, that not only the *Sea Scorbute*, but that also w^h. is on land contracted by eating salt meats, is more certainly and suddenly cured by a convenient diet, then by Physick. And an Eminent Physitian in this city assured me, that most ill habits of body occasioned by feeding much on salt meats, are soon cured by eating daily for a few weeks a good Quantity of almost any edible green herbs. And another no less considerable, who hath great dealing with Seamen, protested seriously to me, that he cures all those among them that are Scorbutically affected, only with young pease, ordred all manner of ways; eaten crude, boiled with, or without their shells, whose juice is to be plentifully mix'd with their broth; that this Remedy never failed him, nor the Seamen of cure: and this sometimes after the disease had eluded many very promising Methods and Medicines.

We

We have hitherto treated of Meats, which Physitians, as I have shewed, can render medicinal. I now proceed to mention, Drinks, which are no less, nay more capable of being improved, by being impregnated with the virtues of Simples Animal, Vegetable, and Mineral, or their Preparations, and not become considerably distastful to the Palate, or nauseous to the Stomach. There are myriads of such pre-scrip-ts in the books of Authors. I shall only mention that method which is of general use in order to the ex-tricating the virtues of Simples or Compositions, which is this: The ingredients are to be hung in ferment-ing liquors, whether Wine, Ale, Beer, or Cider, &c. and that their medicating properties are extracted by this method, dayly experience doth attest, many who either will not, or cannot use other Physick, being re-covered by ingredients thus prepa-red. For the fermenting liquors be-

ing in a brisk motion, and abounding with active parts chiefly spirituous, insinuate themselves into the most private recesses of the Simples or other materials, give motion enough to their active parts to loosen them from the more gross, and drive them into the liquor, and these freed, associate with their deliverers to unloose the rest. And that the *Crasis*, or chief parts and properties of Simples are by this method obtained, is evidenced by the effects and tastes of the drinks exactly emulating those of the materials which were thus fermented. As for what refers to Cures effected by these means, I dare boldly affirm, *That there is scarcely any Chronical Disease, that is cured by the Shop Medicines, which may not be cured with more certainty, ease, and pleasure, by Drinks thus ordered, joyned with a regular Diet.*

Thus have we shewed of how great advantage a convenient Diet is in order

der to the cure of Diseases. I have spoken more largely to this particular, not that I design to learn Physicians any new notion, they having many of them better digested thoughts on this subject, than these which are the Product of two hours Meditation; But I mention these things partly on the account of the Vulgar, that they may have other apprehensions of understanding Physicians, then they have hitherto entertained; as also that I might learn the Apothecaries to know themselves, and their own insufficiency; or if they will not acknowledge it, to expose them so nakedly to others, that, unless they will shut their eyes, they cannot but behold unpardonable weakness and great defects in most of those confident blind Bayards, the Quacking Apothecaries; who before I have dismissed them, will appear lean and scraggy, though now they seem plump and juicy. I shall therefore

proceed to polish the mirror: wherein if impartial Spectators do view and compare them with Learned honest Physicians, they will find without any delusive Catoptrical trick, no less difference between them, then there is betwixt admired beauty, and hated deformity.

Therefore lastly, A Physitian will appear to be Superior to other pretenders, if we reflect on those many advantages he hath, whereof they are wholly destitute. He is accounted to to enjoy a great Priviledge, who hath been Educated by an Eminent Practitioner of Physick, who hath been free in his communications to him; and this is by the Vulgar accounted sufficient to constitute a person, who hath been in such circumstances an able Physitian: And the best plea the Apothecaries have, is, that they have collected the Practice of some worthy Physitian for most Diseases; now there is no Physitian but injoys the benefit

benefit of the writings of many hundred excellent persons, that were eminent in the same faculty before him : These have faithfully communicated their experiments and observations of the causes and symptoms of diseases, and of their cures ; what methods and Medicines they found most beneficial, what things are injurious and to be avoided : And there are others who have left us their writings concerning the virtues of most Simple and Compounded Medicines, in what cases they have been found effectual ; and many (which is perhaps the most profitable way of writing) have left us intire books of Medical Observations, to which Physitians, who have a Scheme of them in their memories have recourse in difficult cases, and by Analogy know how to proceed, as do the Lawyers, on other occasions.

Now let us suppose with some that Physick is altogether Empyrical, being rather a Mass of Experiments than a

Science perfectly formed & established on sound unquestionable verities (which is the most plausible plea Apothecaries or other pretenders can use) yet still it must needs follow, that he ought to be esteemed most able and sufficient, who is furnished with most and best experiments, either from his own observation, or by reading of books which afford him the experiments of all the rest of the world, and can best conclude and argue from the Analogy, Correspondence, and Harmony, they have one to another. So that a studied Physitian must, in all consideration of reason, have far the advantage of any other.

Indeed it hath been objected by some that the diseases of one country & age are so vastly different from those of others, that what is profitable to those that live in one age, or to the inhabitants of one Country is not so to another. Which is not only a great mistake as I have else where demonstrated, but
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of bad consequence, leading us to the neglect of the writings of many Excellent Persons, from which we do daily derive great assistance: For although I will not deny but that there may be some uncertainty, and the Analogy may not be altogether so exact, as we could desire; yet it is no otherwise then the variation of the Needle, touched by the Load-stone; which although it doth not always directly point to the Poles, but in some places considerably varies, so that the most skilful Mariners cannot certainly, though they can neerly determine where, and in what degree of Longitude they are; yet it is such a help that they cannot without great hazard engage in long and dangerous voyages without it; and by it's direction, if no other ill accidents intervene, they usually arrive at the desired ports, though very remote from the place whence they set forth. So a Physician by the help of his own and others obser-

servations, for which he makes allowance, or abatements, as he sees occasion, Pilots most of his Patients almost, as surely as if his course were chalked out for him or directed by a line ; So that patients, who venture themselves in dangerous cases with Physicians and Apothecaries, do it only with this difference, the one (as it were) Imbarks for a long Voyage in a Leaking Skiff, with an Ignorant Pilot without Sayls, Compass, and other due Provisions, the other in a staunch fair Ship, well Riggid, provided with a skilful Pilot, good Compasses, and all other requisites for Navigation : And which is like to make the most short and fortunate Voyage, which is most secure from storms, foundring, or holding uncertain courses, is, I suppose easily determined ? 'Tis true we read of some, that in a little Boat set out from *New-England*, and made a quick and safe Voyage to *Ireland* ; and of others, who no better accommodated

modated Sailed from the *Bermudas* to *Virginia* ; yet these Accidents are not frequent, and if they are registered, it is under the notion of extraordinary events. And besides none of these were so mad as to have neglected any helps they could have procured, it not being choice but necessity, that put them on such strange adventures, and to run so great a risque to escape dangers, which they could not other-ways avoid. But this is not the case of any that are sick, there being choice of means, so that for a man advisedly to hazard that, which is so precious and valuable as life, by committing himself to the care of ignorant unskilful Empericks, when he might in a great measure secure it by consulting a sober Learned Physitian, is to put an affront upon his reason, or to disesteem his life ; but certainly there are not many, who after so fair a warning given them, will expose themselves to dangers, which they may so easily avoid. I will therefore now proceed,
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in compliance with my promise, to give an account of some of those numberless unworthy practises, the Apothecaries are manifestly guilty of, in Order to the disgracing Physitians, and insinuating or confirming a good opinion of themselves.

They will often commend to persons as preventive Physick, a gentle Purge, and at night a little Dose of Diascordium, Mithridate, Treacle or somewhat else, in so small a quantity that it shall not disorder them; so that their Patient, for so they call them, finding that he hath received no prejudice by this Physick, and the purge possibly working kindly, (of which they among the Physitians prescriptions may have enough) apprehends that he may be somewhat better, and so begins to have some confidence in the Apothecary; who doth not loose any hold he hath got. For soon after the Patient perhaps hath occasion for a Physitian, himself or some of his family being ill: If it be for any distemper they were

were formerly subject to, for which the Apothecary hath any of the Doctors Prescriptions ; he then suggests that there is no necessity he should give himself the charge of sending for a Physitian who would prescribe the same things he ordered formerly, which prescriptions he hath by him, and is ready to make up for them ; although now, as I shewed before, the case may be so altered by complication or otherwise, which the Physitian would presently have discovered, that this, which did once give Relief, may be either highly prejudicial or ineffectual. Thus they do ordinarily obtrude themselves and their Medicines on the sick especially if the disease be frequent and obvious, as the Measles, Small-pox, Fever, Scurvey; and some among them soar so high as the Venereal Lues: For they have seen persons often under courses for these diseases, and, having the prescripts still on the File, they know no reason why they should not cure them, as well

well as the Doctor: They therefore tell them that it is a great expence to gratifie the Physitian, and pay the Apothecaries Bill, which in these courses they assure them, will amount to much (as indeed they do by their ordering) that they are thoroughly acquainted with the Physitians Method: which as I have already shewed, is a gross mistake and high presumption. But I cannot dismiss, without a further Check this frivolous pretence of the Apothecary, that because he hath most of those Medicines which the Physitian ordinarily imployes, therefore he ought to be allowed in the practice of Physick, it being a way of Argumentation not much unlike that, some silly fellow might make, who seeing a Lutinist play well to admiration, is there upon desirous to please himself, and gratifie the Company with the like Musick: But upon tryal although he have the same Instrument, as many Fingers as the Musitian, & the Notes prickt down before him; yet can produce no other harmony,

harmony, then what is the result of discord : And would he not render himself yet more ridiculous, should he perswade himself his Musick is not inferiour to that of the Excellent Artist, and becomes highly displeased with the Company, because they do not bestow on him the same applause they gave to the person, he vainly endeavours to imitate ? There being requisite to the best performance of Musick, not only a hand & instruments, but also an exact knowledge of the Rules of that Art, and frequent Exercise. So that for any to promise themselves the Art or habit without the use of the right means, which conduce to it's attainment, is the highest folly, and hath as little foundation in reason as an Attempt (according to our Common homely Proverb) to make a Velvet Purse of a Sowes ear, or any other unsuitable matter.

But to leave this, and proceed in the account of our Quacking Apothecaries,

caries, who by some such Artifices as we mentioned having scrved themselves into families, that they take especial care of them according to their mean ability, I am willing to admit, their interest, obliging them so to do, and you may be sure, they ply them with store of Physick; w^{ch} how fatal it proves to those that have the Measles or Small-pox, is too well known. But if by good fortune the Patient escape, then they sufficiently Celebrate themselves in all Companies, rendring the case somewhat more dangerous & difficult, then really it was : whereby they make way for their Introduction into other families. But if (as is most likely) by their ill management, the Patients lapse into a dangerous condition, so soon as they are sensible thereof, they immediately advise them to send for a Doctor, who is oftentimes so Civil as not to animadvert on what hath been done amiss. If they recover, then he endeavours to perswade them, that the
Physitian

Physician proceeded in the very same course he intended to have followed ; and that it was only for their satisfaction he was desirous to have the Physician advised with. But if the person dies before the Physician was sent for, he cries out with a wide mouth on malignity, which is for the most part no other then the effect of his ill management ; yet being dead he sparingly suggests that he fears the Physician took not a right course ; and wishes that he himself had proceeded after his own method, which for any thing he knew might have recovered him: which suggestion taking with the humour of the people, who are very prone to accuse the last medicines of any strange Symptomes which are often Fore-runners of death, the treacherous Apothecary makes a great advantage of his own miscarriages. Which double dealing having been detected by some Physicians, hath so highly displeased them that they have

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often

often been ready to take up a firm resolution never to take care of any Patients who had before been managed by Apothecaries; and had actually performed it, did they not apprehend it would be a breach of Christian charity to punish people so severely for imprudent actions extorted from them by an others over-bearing persuasions and confidence. These are some of those many artifices the Apothecaries employ, I speak not at random what they may do, but what they have often actually done, many of which have fallen under my own observation, others I have received from the Patients or Physicians themselves, on whom they have thus imposed. Now I appeal to the whole Nation, whether such great mischief and inconveniences as these I have already enumerated, ought not to be redressed; and that we may not think they are *beyond the reach* of any remedy, I shall now proceed to the mention

of those proposals the Physicians make to the Apothecaries: with which if they comply, they will save themselves from ruine, which otherwise is at their heels. I have also thought fit to let the world know that we can subsist without them, and that probably much better then with them; I mean more to our own and the Patients satisfaction or security, as in it's due place shall be made manifest.

Notwithstanding that Physicians and their Patients have been so highly injured by Apothecaries, that they might with the greatest justice utterly reject them; and although the nature of their crimes seem to be such, that they cannot safely keep any further correspondence with them: yet this is so far from being the design of the Physicians, that if any expedient can be excogitated (and such they apprehend they have found out) which may prove a fair ground for an accommodation, they are willing to

forgive and forget all former miscarriages, and give them such encouragement as reasonable and honest persons can desire. Now all that the Physicians expect of them, is that they keep in their own Station, and endeavour to answer the end of their institution. That is, First they shall give the Physicians sufficient security and assurance, that they will carefully and faithfully prepare their medicines; And secondly, that this shall be their sole employment, they no more intruding themselves into the Physicians, which is the practice of Physick. If these be not reasonable requests, let the Apothecaries themselves propose such as are, which the Physicians are ready to receive. Now that the Physicians can be satisfied with nothing less, if they have regard, either to their own credit and subsistence, or the welfare of the Patient, is easily evinced by a recapitulation of what was said before. For if it be true which I think was demonstrated

monstrated, That many Apothecaries are not well acquainted with the *Materia medica*, and liable to be imposed on by Herb-women, Druggists, and others; If they trust to those for Medicines, that prepare them unfaithfully as 'tis manifest they do; If they themselves use bad drugs in their compositions and vent medicines which have lost most if not all their Medicinal vertue; Or if they are fraudulent in their compositions, leaving out frequently the chief Ingredients; If they substitute, add, and subtract at pleasure; Are negligent, slovenly and superficial in their compositions, subject to mistakes, either from their own or Apprentices ignorance of the Latine tongue; and besides utterly unacquainted with Chymistry, a most material if not necessary part of Pharmacy; and instead of those noble Remedies, imploy such as they have from unfaithful persons, who ordinarily adulterate and sophisticate

them. If all these may be affirmed (as
 they may most certainly be) of most
 Apothecaries, would not Physicians ex-
 pose themselves and their Profession to
 the scorn of the world, and might not
 their Patients deservedly load them
 with reproaches, should they still make
 use of their Medicines? And further,
 if the Apothecaries be absolutely unfit
 for the practice of Physick, why are
 they allowed in it? And that they are,
 was proved from the nature of Dis-
 eases, and those several wayes where-
 by they admit of cure. Where we
 shew, that the Apothecaries are
 Masters neither of the cure by Method,
 Specificks, *Arcana*, or any other com-
 pounded of these; That they under-
 stand not Physiology, and are not
 capable of attending to all those cir-
 cumstances, which ought to be duely
 considered by a true Physician; That
 they understand not when Nature is
 to be left, to manage things after her
 own conduct: but on the contrary,
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that they disturbe her orderly motions, and distract her in most regular Operations; That they are not acquainted with cure of Diseases; or preservation of health by Diet; That they ordinarily mistake simple Diseases for complicated, and these for such as are simple; That they are not furnished with those helps which are of great use to the Physician, such are the observations of the Ancients concerning the rise, symptoms, progress and cure of Diseases; and therefore deserve not the denomination of Physicians, nor can without extream prejudice to the publick, be permitted to follow the practice of Physick till they are better qualified for it. I hope then after such a *Manifesto* of grievances, the Physicians may either endeavour their reformation, or desert them; and entertain such as will be more faithful to themselves, and to their Patients. But they are very unwilling, though highly provoked, to

be an occasion of the ruin of so many as will upon their deserting them, be exposed to miserable exigencies; they will not therefore promote their downfall, till they deserve it by rejecting verbally or implicitly the succeeding modest proposals. It will therefore be expected:

That they do faithfully and carefully prepare all the Medicines they send out of their Shops, not trusting to whole-sale either Apothecaries or other Medicine-mongers; That all the Drugs they use shall be viewed and approved of by one or more Physicians before they enter Compositions, as also the Drugs that are of dayly use; That once in three months a solemn Scrutiny be made by Physicians, deputed for that purpose, of all their Drugs and Compositions: who shall be impowred immediately to cause to be destroyed all such as are found unfit for use. We also require, That they either themselves pre-
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pare their Chymical remedies, or give
 the Physicians such assurances, that
 they are faithfully and skilfully made
 as shall satisfy them ; And that care
 be taken for the future, that no Apo-
 thecary entertain any for an Appren-
 tice that is not competently skilled in
 Latin tongue ; and that they be first
 examined and approved by such Apo-
 thecaries as the Physicians shall de-
 pute. Further, Physicians observing
 the great inconveniencies which have
 ensued on Apothecaries having access
 to the Patients, which is not allowed
 of in many Countries, do also think
 it unreasonable that Apothecaries
 here should take that liberty, which
 for reasons mentioned is thought fit
 should be denied them ; especially
 having found upon due deliberation,
 that there is no need of them out of
 their Shops, where they are to look
 to the Composition of their Medi-
 cines : which in their absence often
 suffer through ignorance of their
 young

young Apprentices,, whatsoever is commonly performed by them among Patients, being otherwayes easily effected. Further, That they contract their number, or at least take care for the future, that it be not increased. And lastly, that such prizes be set on Medicines by Physicians as they shall think fit, who will take care that the Apothecaries have reasonable gain; That these be Printed, as in the *Amsterdam* and other *Pharmacopæia's*, so no person can be cheated.

The Substance of what I have here delivered, is comprized in the last proposition mentioned, and insisted on by the Judicious Writer of that rational discourse concerning the state of Physick, in these words, or to this effect.

That Physitians send bills to be made up by Apothecaries, as now they are; provided only that the Time and Manner of using them, be not set down nor the name of the Patient, That it be not sent

sent by the Patient, but by their own servants; That it be returned to the Physicians again with the Physick it self, to be filed up by them or entred into a book with the Patients name and the time: the Physick so made and provided by the Physicians order to be fetcht at their own houses (as it is now at the Apothecaries shops) or from thence sent home by their own servants to the Patient. And because we cannot safely trust to Apothecaries for Chymical Remedies, they usually buying them of common Chymists or Operators, It is desired that the Colledge would erect a publick Laboratory, where all Chymical Medicines fit to be used, shall be well and faithfully made upon the Faith and Authority of the Colledge; and that they shall expressly appoint those, whose Physick they shall think fit to buy, to provide all their Chymical Preparations from thence; nor to permit the use of any other Chymical Preparations to any of their number, except he him-
self

self make and prepare them, or have them from such Apothecaries as the Colledge being satisfied with their abilities and honesty shall approve of. And lastly, That the Colledge of Physicians (who herein will be soon imitated by others) Enact, That none of their number send bills to, or buy Physick of, any Apothecary who takes on him the practice of Physick, till they are fully satisfied he is sensible of the injury done to them, and cease to do the like for the future.

Now how severe and unjust soever these Limitations may seem to the Apothecaries, yet in reality this is but a fair and moderate course between them and Physicians; for it hinders not the Apothecaries making and selling of Physick to any that shall please to buy of them: which thing only belongs to their Trade. To visit the Patient, feel his Pulse, and consider his Urine, discourse of the state of the Disease, and prescribe proper Remedies

Remedies for it, is the business and care of the Physician : So that by this method the Interest of both will be preserved, and all causes of jealousy between the Physicians and them will for ever cease. The Physicians practice and profession will be so absolutely and intirely secured to himself, that the Apothecary cannot invade it ; for he will never see a Physicians bill (from which they alwayes take direction) nor the Patient himself, and so be utterly ignorant of that case for which the Physick was prepared and used ; nor will he hear the Physicians reason and discourse of the due times and manner of Administring it, or explain the nature and cause of the distemper, nor have occasions of officious intervening between the Physician and Patient, nor dispence the Physick with praise of his own great care and pains in preparing it as he is wont to do, all this the Physician obtains by only concealing
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ing his bills (the writing of a bill being as it were the Myſtery of his trade) in which therefore he doth nothing , but what is held reasonable among all men.

Befides, This will infenſibly leſſen that exorbitant number of Apothecaries, which makes the trade ſcarce a competent ſubſiſtence. For as things are now , while the Maſter or their Servants, are imployed by the Phyſician to viſit his Patients, and carry Phyſick about, they will be under a neceſſity of taking ſeveral Apprentices ; elſe they cannot perform ſuch attendances abroad , and the buſineſs of their ſhop too : and this hath made ſo vaſt an increaſe of the trade within few years , as has rendred it but a mean way of livelihood to a great many, and very dangerous to the ſick. Now as their number will by little and little grow leſs, ſo, the trade will become better ; and they who are of it, both for ſkill and eſtate much more
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considerable: and, which is of much greater consequence, Physick will be better prepared, for the Apothecaries will be more in their shops, and not leave things to raw, negligent Servants, as is now often done; they not being sent about by Physitians to their Patients, or with Physick, nor engaged in any Quacking practice of their own, will have more leisure to attend making good Medicines, which is their proper business.

This in short, is the Summary of what we expect from them; and if it be not granted us, nothing remains, but that Physitians take Pharmacy into their own hands, supervise the making of their own Medicines; and dispense them themselves. And we have reason to apprehend that Physitians will be put on a necessity of acting thus, it being highly improbable, that the generality of Apothecaries should be reduced to a sense and practice of their duty, having been so long

long accustomed to such bad courses. For Custom, we know, is a second nature, and where bad, they are not easily subdued by those that heartily desire and design it, how much less by Immoral men who if they amend, 'tis from a principle of fear; and therefore they will redeem every opportunity of infranchising themselves and getting loose from a restraint so troublesome, and contrary to their inclinations. Besides, how unwilling will they be to moderate their gain, lessen their number, which must necessarily be done, unless we will allow the mentioned Inconveniencies, which cannot otherwise admit of a remedy. Besides, 'tis natural for some to be ambitious of practice, not only as it is gainful, but because it adds to their credit and repute, conciliates them more respect, than people think ordinarily due to simple Apothecaries; and therefore to part with their employment in this kind, will not be without

out unspeakable regret and vexation. And besides, supposing, which is yet very improbable, that they should promise to keep within due limits, reform abuses, what other security can they give us besides their bare word or promise, which is so much the more unlikely to be valid; because, as I before intimated, it is not free but extorted: and 'tis absolutely impossible for any besides their own consciences to detect all their fraudulent practices. For though Physicians see and allow of their Ingredients, behold them mixed, what should hinder them, if any of the old Ferment remain, from increasing the quantity with bad Materials? And indeed, neither Laws of God nor Man, good Instructions, excellent Examples, or strict Observance of their actions, can hinder those that are ill disposed from acting that secretly, which sinister respects keeps them from doing in publick. Therefore such a constitution of Phar-

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macy is desirable, where bad men shall be made good and faithful, rather than where those that are innocent meet with daily temptations to be dishonest.

This will be accomplished by Physicians taking it into their own hands; for then suppose them as bad as malice, or the Apothecaries can render them, how little sense soever they retain of their duty, that of interest will strongly oblige them to have good Medicines. *Machiavel* somewhere prudently advises, *That if you would understand what mens designs or intentions are, learn what will conduce most to promote their interest; and that they will chiefly aime at, although to the unwary Spectator, they may seem to take another way, and act another part then they intend.* There are but two cases where this Maxim is rendered invalid. The one is, when men are over-awed with such a sense of Religion, as will not allow them to practice

practice what they apprehend would be highly for their temporal advantage : but this is so far from hindering the Physitian, that it is or ought to be the greatest encouragement he can meet with , the applauses and acquittances he will daily receive from his own conscience , proving an abundant recompense for the unusual trouble he will meet with in compounding and dispensing his own Remedies. The other occasion of invalidating the fore-quoted Maxime , is , when men mistake their interest and do not see it ; which here is morally impossible for a Physitian's credit , and consequently his profit depending on the goodness and success of his Remedies, the better his Medicines are, the greater will be his gain, the higher his reputation : Whereas the Apothecary, let his Medicines be never so bad, runs little hazard, the Physitian only being usually blamed if they cause people to miscarry ; especially if the Apothecary

cary can confidently affirm, that his Materials were choice, carefully and skilfully prepared, which they are never backward to do: adding, sometimes such insinuations as have a tendency to disparage the Physitian, and introduce themselves, as was before intimated. Therefore now we proceed to shew that Physitians can manage Pharmacy. Secondly, That if they proceed in such Methods as we shall mention, or some other analogous great conveniencies, and advantages to the Physician, and Patient; nay, even to the publick, will be the result of such Procedures.

The Proposals that we make, are, That either every Physitian prepare and dispense his own Physick; or that they enter into Associations: either of which will be of great advantage to the publick. Nothing can in my opinion be objected against the first, unless the Physitian himself pretend that it will be too great a trouble, and di-

vert him too much from his other im-
 ployment, of visiting and advising the
 Sick, or consulting in private with his
 Books, Reason, and Experience, (as
 every honest Physitian doth) in order
 to the Recovery and Relief of his Pa-
 tients. Now to him that considers
 things attentive'y, this can be urged
 only by such Physitians as have a full
 imployment, which will afford them
 to keep in their own houses; or to
 have near them persons skilful in
 Pharmacy, whose only business it
 should be to provide such Medicines,
 whether Compound or Simple, as
 they shall have occasion to use in their
 practice, the Physitians directing and
 supervising them. So that supposing
 the Apothecary skilful, there will be
 little reason to fear miscarriages; for
 the Apothecary will have no tempta-
 tion to be unfaithful, because it will
 not benefit him, his gains not being
 contingent (as now) depending on the
 quantity of Physick he sells, his salary
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being we suppose fixt and certain. But rather on the contrary it is his interest to have the Physick as good as he can make it; for the greater success the Physitian hath, the more will be his imployment: and consequently he will be the better able to gratifie the Apothecary for his care and trouble in preparing the Medicine he imployes so successfully. But suppose the Apothecary should have bad designs (which yet he can never have so long as he is in his wits) he will want opportunities to effect them; himself, and his Medicines being almost continually under the Physitians inspection, who allows no bad drugs admittance into his Operatory, and may if he please, see them mix'd and duly prepared.

But Physitians will be freed from much of this trouble, if they take the advice of that late judicious Writer we have already cited, which is, That the most eminent among them
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entertain in their houses persons of three or four years standing in either of our Universities, who are to be received in the capacity, not of Servants, but of young Students, Friends, or vertuous Companions, to be instructed in their worthy Profession; and brought up in the exercises of Anatomy, knowledge of Herbs, mixing and compounding of Medicines, (the drudgery resting on Servants) and visiting the sick under their direction: who when they are a little advanced, and studied in this Art, may be appointed by the Physitian to observe Patients in his absence, and give him an account of their cases; by which means he will be ignorant of nothing material, although he be not there himself. They may also visit their Laboratories, and look after the Preparations of those Medicines the Physicians prescribe; which as it will much ease the antient, so it will be of great advantage to the young Physi-

tian, who while he employes his industry in such services as these for the elder gains (besides what is learnt from Books and Authors) his long experience sees his Patients, hears him discourse of their several Cases, considers the Medicines provided for them, and observes their several effects : All which advantages are now given away in vain to Apothecaries, to whom the practice of Physick does not belong. And if this has been the course that all mankind has ever taken to raise and propagate practical arts, and trades of daily use in humane life, why should it not be used in Physick, which is a practical Art of much greater consequence? especially if we consider how dangerous the errours of this Profession are, and how necessary a practical education is for any man that intends the exercise of it. And though some through pride or weakness disgrace this method as Mechanical; yet without doubt there are many ingenious young

young men in *England*, who would be very glad, and take it for a great honour to be thus received by some of the *Grandees* and great Practitioners: and their Friends think them well and honourably employed.

But (to proceed in our discourse, which was interrupted by this seasonable Digression) because young Physicians, and such as have little employment cannot allow an Apothecary maintenance out of their small gain; it being therefore proposed, That Physicians enter into Societies or Combinations, (which indeed they do naturally, and many such there are now in this City) more or fewer in a company, according as they have greater or less employment: That these provide a place which shall be the publick Laboratory, for the preparing of all Physick, Chymical and Galenical. That they also procure one or more skilled in the Operations of both faculties; these to have, either the profit
of

profit of all the Medicines that shall be prepared : or to have a certain salary or allowance from the Physicians, yet to proceed to register Bills, and receive money, as if they were concerned only for themselves. So many Physicians frequenting the Laboratory, will be a double advantage ; for if they meet with any new and extraordinary way of preparing any sort of Medicines, they will readily communicate it for the benefit of the Society : and so many supervising Drugs and Operations, it will be almost impossible to erre, and difficult to cheat, if the Operator should have such a design, which would be the highest folly and madness in him who makes no benefit thereof, but is rather to his prejudice ; as it will be also eminently of the Physicians, who therefore will not connive at, much less incourage, any Practices of that nature.

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Reasons and Advantages of these proposals are very many, and of great Consideration.

For first, if this course be taken, It will free the Physician from much Anxiety and Hazard, from which, he cannot plead exemption (if an observing considerative person) while he depends on the honesty, care, and skill of an Apothecary, in whom perhaps he hath little reason to confide, upon some or all of those accounts, I have already mentioned: Whereas now in this Constitution of Pharmacy, the Physician will be satisfied his Medicines are good; and that he cannot be injured by the malice or designe of unworthy, miscarriages or mistakes of Ignorant or Careless Apothecaries.

2. This will also free the Patient from fears, jealousies, and dangers; to which, they will be subject so long as the Physician shall repose so great a part of their trust in persons, who
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do feldomae faithfully discharge what is committed to their care. How great a satisfaction will it be to them, for Physitians to put their affairs in such a Method, that all the Physick is prescribed, be prepared exactly after the Physitians direction? and That it will be very unlikely they should suffer from any of those mistakes and miscarriages, which have heretofore often happened? For the Patient knowing it is the Physitians interest to take care that his Medicines be prepared aright; that they are immediately under his inspection; that the Operators have no bias clapt upon them, which should make them run aside, will thoroughly acquiesce in all that shall be done: which quietness, composure, and satisfaction, will promote the Cure, according to that of *Galen*, *Plures sanat, cui plures fidunt*. There is greatest success where people have most confidence. Which in this case is far from presumption;

For

For I see no reason, why they may not promise to themselves, and expect better success from Medicines, that are contrived with skill, and are prepared with the greatest care; than from such as are carelessly and slightly made, or which is worse, Adulterated. Which brings to my mind a third Advantage.

3. If this course be taken, it will render Physick more successful. For Medicines will be better prepared, than now they are, the Physician taking care himself to have nothing but what is good; which he could not so well do, when it was made up out of his sight. Besides, He is under a necessity of taking greater care to have all he uses very good, and most exactly prepared; for no man can now lay any miscarriage on the neglect or ignorance of an Apothecary. It rests altogether on himself, and he becomes responsible for it.

Further, the Profession of Physick
will

will be exercised with greater success, if Physicians prepare and dispense their own Medicines, than now it is; because then, all sorts of men would apply themselves immediately to the Physician, whereby he will have opportunities of seeing the disease in its first rise, which gives him a mighty advantage, for the true understanding and cure of it. Whereas now it is the unhappiness of the Physician (and indeed chiefly of the Patient) that he is never almost sent for, till things are brought to extremity, and all opportunities of curing near lost; Whereas if the Disease had been encountered in the first rise of it, with powerful and convenient Medicaments, the Patient had been again restored to health: whose life it may be must now answer for the first omission. Besides, that the Disease if met in the beginning, is often carried off with a little matter; which neglected, requires a long and troublesome course.

course : Not to insist on this , that more coming than formerly to the Physitian , enlarges his business , and experience. Neither is it a mean convenience, that Physitians will have no temptations , to recede from experimented Methods and Medicines, which I fear now they sometimes do, especially if they are easie, or obvious , lest they should bring themselves into contempt with Apothecaries, and discover their practice; so as they might use it to their prejudice, which is now frequently done. Neither need they adde more Ingredients than are necessary, or those that are of great price, and little efficacy to serve dishonourable Interests. And preparing themselves the Physick they give, will help them better to remember what had a good effect, and which had not, or failed; and how to accomodate themselves to the same persons at other times.

4. This will mightily abate the charge

charge and expense of Physick, the Physicians being contented with such moderate prices for their Medicines, as will discharge what they expend for Drugs in their Laboratories, among Servants and Operators; so that if at the years end their receipts for Medicines amount to so much as they have expended on them, it is all they promise themselves, or expect from others. For the Physician will not, as the Apothecary now doth, depend upon the gain of the Physick he sells to such as come to him; but as he did before upon the Fees which he receives from persons of condition and ability, when he is sent for out of his own house: for the trouble of selling his own Physick, he takes upon him only to advance the publick Interest, satisfy himself more in his own Profession, minister to the necessities of the poor, and consult the greater security of all. Now the charge of Pharmacy (upon a modest compute) if
this

this course be taken, will not arise to a sixth part of what is now paid towards it ; for we can buy Druggs as cheap as any retail, Apothecaries, and every Physitian or Association of them, knowing what Compositions they shall chiefly have occasion for, such only are prepared, and so much of them, as they conjecture may be sufficient, till they have an opportunity again to make them, which shall always be when the Ingredients are fullest of vertue and vigour. By which means they will avoid that great loss of Medicines which is frequent in an honest Apothecaries shop, where many Compositions are made, that are not used six times in a year ; may perhaps not once in six years, as I have heard many of them seriously protest : which must necessarily occasion great losses, unless they are kept till they have opportunities to vend them, as most of them do, although they retain nothing of the Medicine, they once were, be-

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sides the Name. So that in this case the Apothecary is inevitably exposed either to be a looser, or become dishonest; This is to the prejudice of the patient, the other of himself, who must endeavour to repair his losses, by inhauncing the prizes of those that remain; which doth also obliquely reflect on the patient, although of the two 'tis more excusable, and both of them are avoided, by the expedient we have proposed; Where the Medicines will be assuredly good, the Physitians interest obliging him to look to that, and withal afforded cheap, I mean at the same prizes they cost him; Physitians being abundantly requited for their care and pains in seeing to the preparing their own Medicines by the success they will have, and by it's necessary Concomitant, a full Employment. But suppose a Physitian should sell his Physick to the meaner sort of people, who give him nothing for his advice, as

dear

dear as the Apothecary now doth, it is still a great benefit to them, they having advice and Physick too for the same rate they paid for Physick alone.

5. The leaving off the common way of sending Patients to the Apothecaries, will be a great ease to the publike; especially to the poorer sort of people, to whom now the Physician will have a fair advantage of being charitable, and exceedingly helpful as he will be: either if he let them have their Physick at the same price it cost him, bestow it on them freely or (which I suppose will be most usual) teach them how to prepare it themselves. For it's well known that Physicians who are Masters of method, and well acquainted with the Medicinal properties of simples, do often effect great cures, by means, which to an injudicious Person will seem slight or trivial. And indeed if we seriously consider things, we cannot but conclude that nature hath made perhaps

no less plentiful provision of remedies for the poor than for the rich, that Diseases may be cured in the absence of *Aurum potabile* and costly Elixirs; without Magisterial Syrups, *Apozems* or other chargeable Compositions. We have I perswade my self Medicines at our doors, or neer us; we need only gather, and slightly prepare them, and certainly 'tis no great labour or trouble to make an Infusion or Decoction, to express the juyce, or dry the herb, and employ the powder: and yet these easie and obvious Preparations are oftentimes (perhaps usually) no less effectual then those which are more elaborate. Now of how great advantage is it to the poor to be adopted Apothecaries by the Physitian; and instructed how to make their own physick, which costs them nothing but a little labour? These otherwise by reason of poverty must commit all to Nature, whereby they are often exposed to a manifest hazard

hazard; and many die who if they had seasonably consulted the Physician might have been rescued with some common familiar remedy. Besides we shall frequently have opportunities of obliging the poor in another way; For Physicians having for their patients many Ladies, Gentlewomen and other Persons of Consideration or Quality, whose charitable inclinations dispose them not only to feed and clothe the poor, but also to supply them with Physick, if they knew what was proper for their Diseases, now a Physician knowing what Distempers are most frequent in his neighbourhood, can instruct them what provision they should make in Order to their Cure, of Drugs, Simple distilled Waters, Syrups, Conserves, Spirituous or Cordial-waters; and those much better than any which are made in the Apothecaries shops. For I should suppress truth, if I did not acknowledge

to the honour of that Curious Sex
 that all those preparations they them-
 selves make, are much superior to
 any the Apothecaries can produce.
 Now what I have mentioned, is not a
 meer supposition, or a thing desi-
 rable; but is daily practiced by many
 tender, sweet-natur'd Creatures: and
 if all Physicians improve the Interest
 they have in Wealthy, Generous Pa-
 tients, I perswade my self it will be-
 come a general Practice. Which if it
 should, as these gallant persons will
 be commended by all men, and be-
 loved by those towards whom they
 exercise this beneficial Charity; so
 without doubt these Actions will
 be acceptable to God, and have their
 reward in this life, and in that which
 is to come.

to 6. This will be of high advantage
 to Physicians, and those Patients of
 theirs that live in the Country, where
 multitudes miscarry, (and many even
 among the Gentry,) either under bad

or for want of good Physick. For the Country Apothecaries not having certain vent for their Medicines, and few among them being well skilled in their Composition, to avoid charge and trouble, buy such things as they have most frequently occasion for, of *London* Apothecaries who sell Medicines cheaper than the others can make them; and well they may, they being either the refuse of their Shops, or fraudulently compounded, I mean, made either with old or perished Drugs; or else they leave out the most costly, which are often the most effectual and active Ingredients. Now Physicians in the Country comporting with the common way of sending pre-scrip-ts to the Apothecary, especially those that concern persons of Quality; Which Physick, what effects it is like to have, I leave to others to conjecture; for my own part I will not affirm, That any are dispatched by it (though we have little reason to be-

lieve *bad Physick* can have *good effects*);
 but of this I am *most certain*, that it lets
 many die (which is little better) whom
 probably it would have restored, had
 it been such as the Physitian presumes
 the Apothecary is furnished with.
 And but that it is contrary to my na-
 ture, and the design of this Discourse,
 to divulge any thing which might be a
 reproach to particular persons, I
 could name several gallant Gentlemen,
 exceedingly beloved in their Coun-
 tries, wherein they were very useful;
 who miscarried, as is verily thought
 (by those that are competent Judges)
 between the neglect and baseness of
 the Country and City Apothecaries.
 Whereas, when it shall be once de-
 clared by the Colledge of Physitians,
 That it shall be accounted no disgrace
 for any to prepare their own Physick;
 this will be the most pleasing News
 that can come to Physitians who live
 remote from great Cities, and have
 hitherto abstained from that practice,
 only

only to maintain their reputation, the Apothecaries and their adherents, endeavouring to blast the rep^{te} of those that provide, and give their Medicines themselves; branding them, in all Companies, with the ignominious Titles of *Empirick*, and *Mountebanck*: which injurious design often takes effect among those half-witted people, that are greater admirers of Formality, than Realities. But the Colledge having published such a Declaration, as I have mentioned; Physitians will receive greater encouragement from discerning persons, who certainly will be best satisfied with their Physick, when they have it from the Physitian himself, which surely will be as good as he can contrive or make; otherwise he will ruine his Patient, his Reputation, and indeed himself by the loss of his livelyhood, and subsistence: for now if the sick miscarry, from any defects in the Physick, the Physitian only can be blamed,

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it proceeding from his ignorance, or neglect, that he provided not better. Besides, in many parts of *England*, there are no Apothecaries, or the people are so poor, that the expence of Physick is intolerable to them; and therefore the Physitian cannot help them, if he prescribe only Shop-Medicines.

Now, Is it not a great shame, that Physicians should not be able to teach the poor, how to provide themselves with sutable Remedies? especially in the Country where Nature hath open so rich and large a shop, stored with all those materials Physicians can have occasion for, who want only the knowledge of their virtues, or how to prepare them: with both which they will better acquaint themselves, when they leave off the Apothecaries, and take Pharmacy into their own hands, which brings to my mind, those other Advantages that will attend such a state of Physick.

7. Physicians preparing their own Medicines, and giving or selling them to the poor, without expecting any thing for advice, is a great advantage to the Publick, as it overthrows the practice of persons that are ignorant of the Art of Physick, who now take on them to Administer it, to the great prejudice and dammage of the people; especially the meaner sort, who now the charge of advice is taken away, and that of Physick lessened, will much more willingly address themselves to sober intelligent Physicians, than to Apothecaries, and other Quacks or Mountebanks.

8. This improvement of Physick will be of great advantage to Philosophy.

First, Because thereby the practice of Physick being taken from those who have hitherto usurped it, and intirely secured to sober, learned Physicians, will afford them somewhat more than an handsome subsistence; which

which of all persons living, they are most capable of improving, and most ready to imploy in Physiological Researches. This overplus will enable them to be much conversant with *Anatomical experiments*, not only about Man, but other Animals; that by comparing their structures, they may attain to the knowledge of the true and natural uses of each part: they will also busie themselves more about the investigation of the nature and properties of Simples, and be more frequent in the practice of their composition; and some it's probable will engage deeply in Chymistry, a most noble Invention, which seems equally calculated for the benefit of Medicine, and Advantage of Philosophy.

But *Secondly*, Pharmacy being in the hands of Physicians, will give them many and great opportunities of advancing the Knowledge of Nature; *Because* (as a Learned person hath judiciously

diciously observed) *Physitians* will then be frequently invited to take notice of many excellent Phenomena, for the use and service of Philosophy, which now pass unregarded in the hands of Apothecaries and their Servants. Besides, that by observing the several mutations which happen in the Preparation of Medicines, as well Simple as Compound, they will be assisted to consider what effects may happen upon their mixture with the blood or other juyces of the body; and give a great light to the Reasons of all the Appearances of Health and Sicknesses.

But above all other parts of Pharmacy, Chymistry will most transcendently manifest its usefulness, in reference to the improvement of Philosophy; which it doth most signally promote, by discovering the nature and properties of those Subjects, which are exposed to its Operations; as it gives us a great insight into the
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nature of those simple Affections of Bodies, we call Qualities; The knowledge whereof is the basis of a solid natural Philosophy; as it acquaints us with the constitutive Principles of most Bodies, whether Vegetable, Animal, or Mineral; informes us what are the great Principles or Springs of action in the production, preservation, and destruction, or dissolution of all Concretes. In a word, there is no part of Natural Philosophy, which it doth not highly illustrate and enrich, with many noble experiments and observations which would pass unheeded by common, incurious Chymists or Operators: But will be highly improved by judicious, observing Physicians, in Order to the increasing our knowledge of Nature, and our Power over her, which are the main intentions of Philosophy.

9. Physicians taking Pharmacy into their own hand, will be a profitable means of improving it. For first, it
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may be a means of enlarging the extent of the *Materia Medica*; and therein chiefly our knowledge of their Specific Virtues. For then, there will be a more immediate converse between Physicians, Druggists, and Merchants; which will be an occasion of bringing into use many excellent Drugs we know nothing of, but what we read in Authors: by whose directions, Physicians can give them advice, where they may be procured; how to discriminate the good from the bad, the Genuine from such as are Spurious, and Sophisticated; they can also inform the Merchants or Druggists how to preserve many of them, which for want of a little care or skill, loose most of their virtues, before they arrive at these parts. And as to what belongs to the Specifick properties of Simples, It is generally acknowledged, that of late they have been too much neglected. Now this is the only way to retrieve and improve that know-

knowledge, which will, I am persuaded, be greatly enlarged by some new ways of Analyzing Vegetables lately invented; and which will be suddenly communicated. From which we may derive fair conjectures, not only what their Constitutive Principles are, and what proportion of each Principle is in every Concrete; but some other hints will be given by some, of these Methods of Operating on them, which will not meanly conduce to discover their hidden properties: of which I must say no more at present. Whereas it's well known that the Apothecaries have very little of Curiosity, being rarely tempted to make any experiment, out of the Road of our Dispensatory: So that Pharmacy may degenerate, as it doth daily, every one striving to make Medicines cheaper, but few being concerned to have them better than others. Now Physicians, as they are more judicious, and understand the grounds

grounds of Pharmacy much better than the Apothecaries, as may appear by some of their accurate writings on this subject; and may be seen in their ordinary prescriptions; many whercof are as exact, and the Ingredients no less Judiciously dispos'd, than in those processes we find in *Pharmacopæas*. They are also acquainted with many excellent Chymical and *Galenical* Preparations which have been either Invented, or published, since our Dispensatory was last revised; and most know better Methods of preparing many of those Medicines that come frequently in use, as of simple distilled Waters, Syrups, Spirits, Extracts, Tinctures, Magisteries, as also of several Elaborate Preparations which may be made in less time, and with less expense than they now are, some Ingredients being superfluous, adding nothing but trouble, and expense to the goodness of the Preparation. Farther it

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being, as I have shewed, the Interest of every Physitian to have his Medicines well made, there will arise a generous emulation between Combinations, who shall exceed in that kind, which will put them on contrivance and Experiments. The result whereof must necessarily be of Publique advantage, for somewhat amiss in former preparations will daily be discovered and corrected, instead of which, additions and improvements may be made : so that probably in a few years, Pharmacy will be very different from what it now is, and greater success will attend better Medicines, Which will heighten the honour of that Noble profession which seems now to languish for want of some such Remedy; add to the repute of Physitians; and be highly beneficial to the Patient, whose diseases will be cured more certainly, speedily, with greater security, and more pleasure (if there is any in courses of Physick.)

And

And here, since I have taken the liberty to reflect (a little unhandsomely, it may seem to some) on our own Dispensatory, I am forced to make a digression. The substance whereof is, that 'tis not my Opinion only; but the perswasion of most Physicians who are but indifferently acquainted with those Methods of preparing Medicines, which are of recent invention, That our Dispensatory is so far from being arriv'd at the highest degree of perfection, that on the contrary it is most manifestly, and in many respects very defective, abounding with pompous Prescriptions, some whereof seldom, if ever, come in use; And many Compound Remedies have been recently invented or divulg'd, which are of greater efficacy and larger extent than the best our Dispensatory can boast of. Besides in many of the Prescriptions that are of frequent use, there are superfluous Ingredients, which add indeed to the trouble and charge

we are at in compounding them; but little to the vertues of the Medicines, which would be better displayed, if they were omitted, the Preparations being rather clog'd than improved by them. And besides, Modern Industry, and Invention, hath found out better Manuals or Methods of Compounding Medicines, whereby the Ingredients are better opened, more exactly mixed, and in some more highly depurated; I mean, where the Active parts are freed from those gross useles portions of their bodies, which hindred them from exerting their salutary properties. And there are many Natural, Genuine, easie Methods of preparing Simples, especially Vegetable, whereby their whole Crasis is preserved intire, their vertues being rather heightned, then in the least impaired; which taken in a small Dose are more effectual than whole pounds of the Vulgar waters, Syrups or Electuaries. And as they are

are not ingrateful to the palate ; So neither doth the Stomach Nauseate them. And they have this further privilege, that in some years their vertue doth not sensibly decay, nor are they subject to corruption, as the shop-Preparations ; and yet neither Honey, Sugar nor any Saccharine substance is imployed to preserve them, their own simplicity or their being exactly freed from gross unsutable parts, which are usually the occasional causes of fermentation and putrefaction, rendering them less liable to these destructive operations. Besides it hath been the complaint of Physitians for many ages, that Flowers which seem to be made up of the most fine and active parts of the whole Vegetable, and are probably enobled with Extraordinary vertues, do, in most of the Operations they are exposed to, loose those subtile portions of matter, from which we might promise our selves great effects. And I

confess it seems highly probable to
 me, that flowers are the *Compendium*
 of the whole plant, and possess more
 of their Medical virtues in a little
 room, than is contained in a far greater
 quantity of leaves, stalk, root, or
 fruit; and the wise contriver of the
 Universe seems to have destined them
 chiefly for Medicine. I shall not here
 mention those reasons and experi-
 ments which inspire me with this
 persuasion; only this I dare affirm, that
 they afford more Noble Medicines, if
 truly prepared, than any other part
 of the Vegetable: at least so far as I
 have made tryal. Now the shops
 employ the flowers, either dried,
 and then a great part of the Volatile
 active parts are exhaled, which being
 after decocted leave behind them a
 scarce sensible impression of their pre-
 sence; Or else they are beat up with
 Sugar into Conserves, which doth,
 as I could manifest at large, al-
 most wholly change the properties of
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these otherwise Active substances. The same happens also in Syrups and all other preparations, where Sugar is imployed. For although many perswade themselves that Sugar is a most Innocent thing, keeping Simples and their parts from putrefaction; and that it doth not make the least change in the Vegetables; it is imployed to preserve: yet by their leave I do assert that it is highly questionable, whether simples mixed therewith do not loose many of those Properties, with which by nature they were endowed, Sugar being an Active body, a sweet Salt (for so it may be styled without a Solœcisme, I having often made a Salt sweeter then Sugar of Ingredients either very Acid, or exceeding Fiery) and is a potent *Menstruum* or dissolver of bodies. And though Metals are commonly reputed indestructible, it being well known that they are recovered from

all ordinary Solvents, the same Metals without any alterations that they were when first exposed to their Actions; for notwithstanding that they are sometimes disguised, appearing in the form of Volatile Salts, lovely Crystals, or are brought over in the form of an Oyl swimming on water (both which I have had myself from them) nevertheless after all these Operations, the Metals are easily reduced into the same for weight, colour and other properties: and yet the Calces of these seemingly indestructible bodies, by a slight manual with Sugar over a Kitchen fire are so strangely altered, that none of the ordinary ways of Reduction will recover them their Metalline form. And so mild an Ingredient of Medicines as Honey, only by Distillation is made, as Corrosive and pernicious as any *Aqua fortis* made with Salt-Peter and Vitriol, dissolving Metals much

much after the same manner. If then Sugar and Honey may, and do probably often superinduce another Texture, and other qualities than they found in Vegetables, destroying the former, it were advisable, that besides these Preparations we used others, at least on extraordinary occasions; wherein the virtues of the simples are preserved more intire: and wherein much is concentrated in a little room. I will not deny but there is more trouble in making the latter, than the former; but extraordinary success will be an abundant recompense for the expence of time and trouble, the charge being rather inferiour, or at least but equal to what the vulgar Shop-Medicines now cost: a small Dose of those being likely to prove more effectual than a great Quantity of these. And as for Flowers which occasioned this digression by a most facile and

and natural method without any additament, or so much as the help of Culinary fire, they may be converted into Liquors exceedingly Spirituous; and which may be kept without loss of vertue many years. But of this the world will shortly, I suppose, have a more particular account; and therefore I shall let it pass without any further Illustration.

But if it be Enquired, *what Preparations of Vegetables they are, which are pretended to retain the whole Crasis and Vertues of the Vegetables intire?*

I answer, The Essences made by Distillation, *per descensum*, in the Sun, which by other casie Operations, are further purified and exalted: the Essential Salts of Vegetables, I mean not the vulgar, but such as have the exact tast and smell of the Vegetables that afforded them, whose active parts are most evidently united in the
Crystal-

Crystalline Salts, as appears by the effects ; as also from this, that if the *Capious faces* be Distilled, they yield only an insipid Phlegm, and a very small portion of gross sæculent Emphyreumatical Oyl: and afterwards the *Caput Mortuum* calcined never so long, yields no fixed Salt, which is in another form in the Essential, united with the active Principles of Spirit and Oyl, as appears upon Distillation. But besides these, the Essences of Vegetables made by the union of their pungent vinous Spirits, essential Oyles, and highly depurate fixed Salts, which by iterated Cohobations become a similar Liquor, wherein the Principles are inseparably united, are noble Remedies ; and though I do not affirm, that they retain all the Specifical properties of their Vegetables : yet I persuade my self, that if they want any, this defect is abundantly supplied by the acquist of new, which perhaps in many cases are much superiour to what

what we could expect from the crude plant, most exactly appropriated. And that in a word I may manifest, how great alterations may be made on Vegetables by slight means, I will mention one Method more of dealing with them; whereby without any other additament than what they may receive from the Air, the leaves of all Vegetables being duly fermented and distilled, yield copiously a Liqueur which rectified, is not to be distinguished from Spirit of Blood, Soot, Harts-horn, or other urinous Spirits or Salts: and mixed with highly dephlegmed Spirit of wine, they concoagulate into the *Offa alba*. And though some herbs, as Wormwood, *Carduus Benedictus*, Mugwort, &c. yield it more plentifully than others; yet all yield so much that a large Retort filled only with common Grass thus ordered, gives at least a pint of this subtile, volatile Spirit: which if often rectified, appears in a Saline form, and is as pene-

penetrating and fugitive, as the Salt of fermented Urine. As for the *Caput mortuum*, in vain do you expect a fixt Salt in it; That being made such by the action of the Fire; it being volatile not fixed in the Vegetable, as this natural way of *Analysis* evinces. I have by me an entire discourse on this subject; wherein there is a great variety (I had almost said infinity) of experiments and observations. And sometimes I am apt to flatter my self into a belief, that this is the true, genuine, and universal way of extricating the component Principles of Vegetables; and that it will give us a greater insight into their nature, than any thing which hath been hitherto made publick. Besides, there appear during these Operations many things, which will prove highly instructive to those that Philosophize on other Subjects. But to return into the way from which we were diverted, I affirm.

10. That

That, Physicians preparing and dispensing their own Medicines will be of great advantage to the Publike, as it confirms the health of the weak, and rescues many from diseases, who would otherwise faint under them. This addition to the number of the living, and increase of their strength, being of no mean importance, the honour and prosperity of a Nation consisting in a multitude of sound minds animating healthful bodies; whereby they are rendred fit for the Arts of War and Peace. And therefore, we may presume that publick persons, whether the most supreme or subordinate Magistrates, will be so far from opposing such a reformation as this we design; that they will give us all the encouragement and assistance we can desire. And questionless, if there be any Impediments or Obstacles, which Physicians themselves cannot remove, as I hope there are not many, they have reason to rest assured; that

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our Great and Wise Counsel will in such cases interpose their Authority, which will extirpate whatsoever opposes it self to so just and advantageous designs. For where any thing is of publick advantage, what should hinder its proposers from expecting publick Countenance? It being well known, that in all well founded Constitutions where there is a union of interests, there will be united Counsels and Endeavours. And we may farther encourage our selves from hence, that they who are so tender of every mans propriety, that they account every invasion thereof, an injury done to themselves, will not deny their assistance to Physitians, whose propriety also is strangely invaded, the Usurpers now being almost ready to plead Prescription. And besides, we suppose that they who are so much concerned to keep every man in quiet possession of his own estate, will not be wanting to those who would endeavour

vour to render them more secure of their lives; which are of somewhat greater value. And that the lives of many are frequently indangered by ignorant, bold, daring Apothecaries and Empiricks, hath been made sufficiently manifest.

But besides all this, If Physick be really, as is pretended, a useful Science, the Publick ought to take care it do not degenerate; and that its worthy Professors be not discouraged, or deprived of an honourable subsistence. For it hath been ever observed, That where any Art receives greatest encouragement, there it usually arises to its highest perfection; and where its much slighted, there it soonest declines: The Artists either leaving those places, or applying themselves to the study and exercise of more profitable employments. This will be exactly the case of Physick, which whilest it is established in that degree of Honour and Esteem it may

may justly challenge, and the Professors thereof are liberally rewarded, and duly respected: this countenance will exceedingly heighten their Industry, and put them on Actions which may manifest to the World, that they do, in some measure, deserve the favour it shews them. So that some will cultivate the Anatomy both of the body and its humours, endeavour to acquaint themselves and the World with the admirable Fabrick and use of those parts whereof Man is composed, and the nature of those humours which produce such admirable effects as are daily observed. They will never cease till they have investigated the nature of the stomach's ferment, a *Menstruum* so universal, that there is scarcely any Animal Vegetable, nay, even Mineral substances, which can elude its dissolving property, they being all by it reduced into a seemingly homogeneous milky liquor; they will then enquire how this comes to

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be tinted with a noble purple dye, which they find it puts on soon after its admission into the blood, and how that nourishes all parts, leaving with each what is suitable to its nature, and then returns again for fresh supplies, running this round without intermission till death puts a period to its Course. They will further examine the frame of the Lungs, the nature and properties of that air whereby they are dilated, its use in reference to respiration, and whence it is that we cannot subsist a minute without it. They will also more attentively consider the nature of the Nervous liquor, and that truly admirable effect thereof, Muscular motion; where small chords, by means of a little spirituous Juice, helped with an advantageous situation, perform actions which would appear stupendous if they were not common: And are a Subject which hath hitherto sufficiently exercised the greatest Wits later or former Ages
 ever

ever produced : But nothing will more deserve their attentive consideration than the propagation of the Species, in which process there is not a greater or more pleasant variety than obscurity : The one serves to excite Desire, the other to heighten Industry ; and there is no Physician, who hath any spark of Curiosity, or sense of his Duty, and sufficient Encouragement, but will endeavour to acquaint himself with these great Processes of Nature : I mean, the preparation of the food, its Distribution, Respiration, Muscular motion, and Generation : To which we may add, the exclusion of what is useless or burdensome. And then he can be no longer a stranger to her regular actings, and knows what are most likely to continue them such without interruption. But before this excellent Person we would here characterize, I mean, a true Physician, attains to this knowledge he is at the expense of much money, time, and

trouble ; for howsoever Providence might deal with the *Protoplast*, the wisest of Kings, or others in former Ages, and whatsoever some now pretend to the contrary, we cannot find that this Skill comes by inspiration, but is the result of innumerable Experiments and Observations: One dissection of a dead man is not sufficient to inform him of his frame, doth not learn him the use or function of each part ; he converses with many other Animals living or dead, whereon he makes numerous experiments, which by Analogy and Induction he applyes to Man. Neither doth his learned toyl here end, this is but the *Praludium* and most pleasant part thereof. He is forced therefore to consider the body of Man, not only as an Engine of curious and admirable contrivance, of unmatched workmanship, wherein nothing besides beauty and order appears: But also as a Machine, which consisting of ma-

ny parts, and having great variety of motions, is often out of order, seldom long performing them all with the greatest exactness, but sometimes gives the skilful Artist an opportunity to manifest that he knows much of its nature and contrivance, by redressing what was amiss, and some waies supplying its defects. It is needless to mention those many diseases Man is subject to, there being no person that understands himself, and others, who hath not a Scheme of them in his memory; and yet, although the Anomalies mans body is subject to are so numerous, and many among them appear exceedingly formidable to most Spectators; they may be all removed by the skill of a Judicious Physitian. But how great is his care, how unspeakable his trouble, before he attain to the knowledge of the Symptomes and cure of Diseases? How often is his mind upon a Rack, and he frequently perhaps too anxiously solicitous for

his afflicted neighbour? He makes it his business to enquire into all those helps Nature or Art can afford him, which may prove conducive to promote their recovery; he many waies examines Simples, and uses all means to extort from them a Confession of their nature, deliberates whether he should imploy them in their simplicity, slightly, or more elaborately prepared; and when he hath determined, administers them with all due Circumstances. Now, surely to inform himself of the Medicinal properties of Simples, to know how skillfully to mix, compound, and suitably apply them, as it is no mean Art, so neither is it an easie labour, or an ordinary trouble, whether he derive his knowledge from those that have preceded him in the same Faculty, or from his own personal observations. And if Physicians, who are of so clear Judgments, so unparallel'd for Industry, have no more respect or consideration

deration than mean, empty, shallow pretenders, we have reason to fear that hereafter persons of great Abilities and liberal Education will scorn to look towards a Faculty which, though noble and honourable in its own nature, is so low and mean in the esteem of the World. that every person who hath the confidence to affirm he is a Physitian, although perfectly ignorant of the Rudiments of Physick, shall yet have no less countenance from the Publick, than those gallant persons, who after a long courtship have rendered nature familiar, are acquainted with the causes and cure of diseases, and who have so well deserved of Mankind, that I cannot but marshal them next to those Divine Persons, who also, as these, are often slighted and neglected, *although of them the World is not worthy.*

But it is now fit I should leave these idle melancholy speculations, and presage better things of the Publick, and

to sober learned Physitians. For I persuade my self, I may promise them from Authority encouragement, and assistance proportionable to their care and success; both which will be more conspicuous, if they prepare their own Medicines: which I most passionately commend to their Consideration. And that this Proposition may meet with a kind Reception, and be more readily entertained, I will endeavour to return satisfactory replies to to whatsoever can be objected against it, by either Apothecaries or Physitians: For the most Noble designs have ever met with great opposition, and sometimes a proposal, which was made with a sincere intention of Publike benefit, hath occasioned the ruine or been otherwise prejudicial to the propounders; which would happen in this Case, supposing the Event of affairs did depend on the will of Apothecaries. But howsoever if they are resolute, and determine unanimously

mously to oppose all reformation,
 (which is sufficiently probable) they,
 and most of those that are tied to
 their Interests by alliances, will en-
 deavour to possess the people where-
 soever they come, with an Opinion of
 the injustice, and unreasonableness
 of the Physitians' cause, and as plausi-
 bly as they can maintain their own
 pretensions; whereby they may pos-
 sess many with prejudices against a
 most honest and Honourable design,
 who would otherwise have promoted
 it : For hearing the plea, but of one
 party which, if they proceed at the
 usual Rate, will be well stuffed with
 falsties, denying many matters of fact,
 which are notoriously scandalous, and
 producing things in their own behalf,
 which almost every Physitian can ea-
 sily disprove. So that those persons,
 whom they shall thus abuse, appre-
 hending they are engaged in a good
 cause, may unawares oppose Truth
 and Equity, contrary to their Intention;
 which

which they had never done, but through misinformation. Besides the Apothecaries may urge (where they have not confidence to deny truths as visible as the Sun) that these designs of Reforming them are indeed fine spun Speculations, but can no ways be reduced to Practice; That if the hedge be once broken, and the Apothecaries discountenanced, it will occasion greater inconveniences then those, for which the Physicians design a remedy.

The Inconveniences are some such as these,

First, It will be an Act of great cruelty, advisedly to design the Ruine of so many Persons, who have most of them families to make Provision for. Besides that it will be a great injury to the Publike.

To this we answer, that the Physicians design no mans ruine, their intentions are Innocent, Rational, and such as will approve themselves to all
the

the world ; And I suppose they are so far from deserving blame for Endeavouring to reform abuses, which have crept into their Faculty, that, on the Contrary among wise people, they will meet with great Commendation and Encouragement : And for the Apothecaries to oppose them, because their credit by such proceedings will be Eclipsed, and their dishonest gain diminished, is, (pardon the Comparison) like *Demetrius* and the Silver Smith's opposing the Apostle, because, if the people hearkned to his wholesome Counsels, their Trade would fall to decay ; a worthy way of Argumentation, and such as is in the mouth, only of selfish persons, who are more eager on their Private gain, then the Publike good. And the Apothecaries being so little concerned for that, I admire with what confidence they can expect the Publike should be so deeply engaged with them in a Quarrel
 against

against those who are it's best friends, and fall out with the Apothecaries, only because they are enemies to the Publike; as most certainly they are if the least part of that be true we have affirmed of them which whether it be, let the world first examine, and after determine. So that if the mentioned plea of the Apothecaries pass for legitimate and valid, what sort or profession of men is there so base, and vile, which may not use the same Argument? Coyners, Robbers, Cut-purses, Sophisticaters of wine, who all pretend necessity of acting as they do, that otherwise they cannot subsist, but the Law is so far from approving of such idle pretences, that it deservedly, orders severe punishments, for such as shall by fraud or force deprive men of their Propreity. And shall we animadvert with so great severity on those that take away unjustly an inconsiderable portion of a mans Estate, without which he
can

can well subsist, and at the same time take no notice of him, that shall deprive men of health, and sometimes life? This were like fishing with that strange net, which keeps little fish and dismisses the greater: There is no reason we should punish offenders for slight faults, and find excuses and evasions for such as are guilty of greater crimes. In short, where the continuance of a few disorderly persons in any place, employment, or Publike capacity, is inconsistent with the good and Welfare of the Community, it is so far from injustice, and cruelty to reject them, that it were both, should we do otherwise, which is the very case of the Apothecaries, if their Medicines and practices be so dangerous, as we have reported them. But to be more particular in our reply, because some deceit may be concealed in universals; First, I say if it be so great cruelty to ruine many men in
their

their Estates, how much greater is it
 to expose as many, not once in
 an age, but every year, to a manifest
 hazard of loss of health, or life which
 are so much more considerable, that
 the Estates and wealth of all the Apo-
 thecaries put into the balance against
 the life of the meanest person in these
 Nations, the latter will surely Pre-
 ponderate. Therefore when we are
 in such straits, that of two inconve-
 niences we can avoid but one, none
 but an Imprudent or mad person
 will make choice of the greatest: But
 this is not our present Case. For all
 such Apothecaries, as are found to be
 upright and honest, shall be well
 provided for; and the remainder
 may addict themselves to other pro-
 fessions: If they pretend unskilfulness,
 no one will regard that frivolous al-
 legation, who observes their frequent
 intrusions into the Practise of Physick.
 For w^{ch}, by what hath been said, they
 appear more unfit, then for any Me-
 chanical

chanical or other imployment ; to the knowledge of whose Myſteries and Intricacies they may certainly much ſooner arrive, then of ſo profound a Science as Phyſick. But to put a Period to this Reply the Apothecaries may conſider, that there are in this famous City, and many other parts of *England* a great number of Ingenious Perſons, whoſe ill fortune it was to addiſt themſelves to the ſtudy of Phyſick, (for the event plainly ſhews it was their unhappineſs) theſe after great expenſe of Money, after long and intenſe Study, being become well Qualify'd for the Practice thereof, cannot have a ſubſiſtence, the Apothecaries having more in their own hands then would be a ſufficient maintenance for ſome hundred ſuch perſons, who are under ſo great diſcouragements; through the Coveteuſneſs and Injuſtice of the Apothecaries, as none can imagine, beſides thoſe that converſe with them.

Now

Now to retort the Apothecaries argument upon themselves with advantage, we say, that it is a high piece of Cruelty and Injustice for the Apothecaries to deprive so many Learned, Ingenious Persons of a means to subsist. And I make full account that the Practice which is in the Apothecaries hand is as much their due, as an inheritance, which is held from the right owner by the Artifice of some usurper, and to take the Practice out of their hands, and turn it into the right Channel, deserves no more blame, than he that shall restore an inheritance long withheld to the true owners; For since but one can possess it, 'tis fit surely, that he to whom of right it appertains should enjoy it, rather than any other, how urgent soever his wants may be, how great his necessities. Thus all Circumstances duly weighed, it appears evident that the inconveniences, some few persons will deservedly labour under,

under, is not comparable to the advantages the Publike will receive from their Seclusion or Reformation.

Another thing the Apothecaries plead in their own behalf against the Physicians, is, that they are like *Aesop's* Dog in the Manger (for such an irreverent Expression I heard one use) who could not eat Hay himself, and yet would not permit the Ox to feed thereon. So the Physicians will neither take care of the poor themselves, nor permit the Apothecaries so to do, who are chiefly Conversant among them, advising and assisting those who would meet with little other help, they not being able to gratifie Physicians; who are (as one of their worthy Authors says) like *Balaam's* Ass they cannot speak till they see an Angel. These being neglected (as they would perswade the world) by Physicians, have recourse to them; and they it seems being prevailed on (Tender Hearts!) by sentiments of pity, let

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them

them have such Medicines as they think most apposite to their distemper.

Whosoever reads this plausible story which the Apothecaries set off with greater advantage than their Advocate can, will look on the Physicians as *curst* Levites, passing by their distressed brother, not vouchsafing him a single regard; who there lies in misery and danger till he is rescued from both, by such as vaunt themselves to be so many Charitable *Samaritans*: But how well that title becomes them, and how grossly and palpably they have calumniated the Physicians, will appear by the ensuing Discourse. First, suppose the Physicians should say to them (w^{ch} yet they neither do nor ever will) we cannot but approve of your charity, although we do not intend to imitate it; therefore we give you free permission to concern your selves as much as you please for the poor, we allow you to advise, and give them Physick, either freely:

or

or to afford it at such prizes as you may be no gainers, so neither loofers. This and a greater liberty we will allow you, so that you tamper not with the rich, to whom we will give better advice and greater assistance than any they can receive from you. Can any man think, understands who the Genius of the Apothecary, that such Language will be very agreeable to him? No, the Contrary is well known, they make it more their business than the tending of their Shop is, to insinuate themselves into the most wealthy families, and find this Employment more beneficial than their observance of Physitians.

But let us imagine, that our Apothecaries Shop is like an Hospital, to which there is great resort of poor distressed people, all which he supplies with sutable remedies (we will suppose the best) but upon what terms? Truly on such as are very beneficial to himself. For, not a dose of any

thing goes out of the Shop, which is
 not twice paid for; I mean is sold for
 double the value or price, for which
 they might afford it, and yet be gain-
 ers. So that by this time we see the
 Charity of the Apothecary is not so
 Conspicuous, as his Collusion in
 gratifying of others at their own ex-
 pence. And that what I have said, are
 no Fictions will be attested by great
 numbers of Physicians, whose rep-
 ute was never yet stained by unhand-
 some practices; and are so far from being
 such covetous, uncharitable persons
 as they represent them, that they
 have on the contrary often given their
 advice freely, refused money when it
 was offered them, if they knew or sus-
 pected the condition of the person to
 be very mean. And it's well known,
 that scarce any Physician exacts money
 of his Patient, what comes, is free gift,
 not extorted; whereas the Apothe-
 carie will be paid by the poor im-
 mediately: and he alwaies gains
 more

more of them by his Physick, than the Physitian hath ever for his advice. Nay I am well acquainted with several Physicians, who pay their Apothecaries every year out of their own Purfes, for a large Catalogue of Medicines they cause to be bestowed freely on poor Patients. I fear the Apothecaries cannot produce many such Examples of persons in their own faculty. And besides, there is a great company of Physitians, of whose number I own my self to be (and I am confident many others, with whom I am not acquainted, have the same intentions) who have solemnly obliged themselves to go at all times to all Patients, poor as well as rich, whensoever they are called; and if they are in a necessitous condition, to give them their advice freely: only they will be called by the Patients or their friends, not by the Apothecaries, who will endeavour to give them much unnecessary trouble, and

put them to as many Inconveniences as they can, that they may make a benefit of their well-grounded refusals. If any person be taken Apoplectical with Convulsions of any kind, violent pains, or any other dangerous disease or Symptome, we will not at midnight decline giving them visits, although they dwell with poverty it self; But it's unreasonable a Physitian should be called out of his Bed on trivial occasions, and endanger himself to do that, which without any danger to the Patient, might be deferred till morning. To invite a Physitian to visit them at unseasonable times upon the aking of a tooth or corn, a slight pain or lask of the belly, or to cure diseases which are extant only in a depraved Fancy, is a most unreasonable request, and such as the Apothecaries themselves will not comply with. And indeed Physitians have been ever more ready (If I flatter them not, which I would not willingly

lingly) to Visit and Advise the poor, where it has been only a deed of charity, and abstracted from interest, than the Apothecaries.

Another Objection I have heard some Apothecaries make against Physicians dispensing their own Physick, and deserting them, is, *That the publick cannot with safety allow thereof, for then Physicians might prescribe their Patients poyson instead of salutary Physick: and all this without any danger to themselves, if they have any command of their Tongues and Consciences. That this is prevented by sending Bills to the Apothecaries, which besides is a great convenience to the Physicians; for should they be suspected upon some horrid Symptomes or ill Accidents attending the Physick they prescribe (which the Apothecaries well know sometimes happens, rather from their own carelessness, unfaithfulness or Ignorance, then the Physicians as I have shewed) these surmises are pre-*

sently quelled by the Physicians, appealing to his Bills on the File, which on Examination being found to contain nothing of that kind, for which he is suspected, he is without any more ado acquitted.

This Objection is so fraught with malice, and design, that I cannot consider it without some Indignation. This is the first time that ever I heard Physicians were in danger of turning Poysoners; and I do not remember that ever any were suspected for that foul crime, although it's well known the Apothecaries have not escaped so well. But howsoever this is a most frivolous Objection on many accounts, for first, If Physicians were so wicked, as this Objection supposes some of them to be, that they should design the destruction of that life, they ought to preserve, Is any man so senseless as to think they could not meet with Apothecaries, as ill minded as themselves? Yes, I dare

dare say ten for one, besides, Is it not very apparent that all people lie now more at the mercy of Apothecaries and their Apprentices or Operators, then (supposing the design we have proposed take effect) they can ever at the Physicians? For although we send Bills to the Apothecary we can have no assurance, they are made up according to our Prescription, but the Master or Servants may add what they please, without any but their Consciences, being able to detect them. Therefore since they are so malicious as to start so unworthy an Objection, we might retort it upon themselves, and argue; since Physicians and their Patients are in danger of being poysoned by every Apothecary or their Apprentices, Were it not much better that Physicians should supervise those that make their Physick, whereby they may prevent this danger? And since the trust must be reposed in some, whether doth not
the

the Physitian more deserve it, than the Apothecary and his Apprentices ?

But we will not insist on this, For I hope that all *English* men have so strange an Antipathy against this horrid Crime, that I am perswaded there are few amongst the worst of them would be guilty of it, although to save their own lives ; and therefore we will acquit the Apothecaries, and others from suspicion of a crime, of which should they entertain the least favourable thought, they would deserve to be excluded from humane Society. But these vices I hope have not passed the *Alps*, and I wish they may ever keep within those bounds ; and that they will never pass the Seas to us, so as to become *Epidemical*, my mind doth strongly presage.

But yet nevertheless, that no ground may remain for suspicion we shall send Bills or Prescriptions to our Laboratories, as duly as we now do to the Apothecaries, which necessity will oblige

oblige us to, many being concerned together ; otherwise instead of that order, and Conveniency we promise our selves, we shall have discord and confusion : but I shall relinquish so nauseous and ingrateful a Subject, Whereunto Physitians might have returned the same answer the *Lacedaemonian* did to him that asked, What was the punishment among them for Parricides ? viz. *That they could not imagine any person should arrive to so high a pitch of wickedness, as to be guilty of so enormous a crime ; therefore they had made no Provision against it.*

Another thing they are ready to Object to us, is, *That if Physitians reject the Apothecaries, let them Contrive their business never so prudently, Medicines will be more unskillfully prepared, than whilst they Employed them.*

To which we Answer, That the Contrary will happen ; for Physitians will

will imploy, as I shewed before, such sober, industrious Apothecaries, as are willing to be engaged by them, to which shall be associated, ingenious Operators: all these Combining, certainly Medicines will be better prepared, than they have been hitherto; for Physitians the Inventours of Pharmacy have ever since been the great improvers thereof, and not the Apothecaries: Among the Ancients *Mesue*, among the Moderns *Renaëus*, *Schroder*, *Zuelser*, *Quercetan* and *Others*. Besides, its well known that most Physitians are Masters of some Excellent Compositions, which are not extant in our *Dispensatory*, with *which only* the Apothecaries are acquainted; and many of them there are, have found out better general Methods of Distilling Waters, making Syrups, Electuaries, and other forms of Medicines than are commonly known: which if this design succeed, they will put in Practice highly to
their

their own, and the Patients advantage. And indeed there are few Physicians, but would prescribe (if they knew where to have it) Physick more pleasant, less Nauseous for quantity, and Quality, than any is in the Apothecaries Shops. So that we see this Objection returns upon them to their prejudice.

And indeed, if we impartially examine things, it will readily appear, that many Physicians have greater skill in Pharmacy, or the ways of Compounding and Preparing Medicines than any Apothecaries. For if no Persons are so well acquainted with the Nature, and Virtues of Simples, or with the ways of finding them out as Physicians, which is acknowledged by all; It will thence follow, that they in all probability must know best, how to prepare Simples, how to dispose them to Operate with the greatest advantage, which are most Effectual
with

with, and what without Elaborate Preparations; whereby the Vertues of many Simples are often destroyed not improved. And in Compositions they know the true Methods of mixing things together, that some may not annihilate the force of others, and so become altogether ineffectual.

But if it be further Objected by Apothecaries; *That the Materia Medica is so copious, Compositions so numerous, that it will be an unspeakable trouble to Physitians to provide the one, and see to the Preparing of the other.*

To this we Answer, That a good Method with little trouble, will dispatch much business, which in a hurry and confusion, will require a far longer time, greater expence, more labour; and perhaps at last be more perfunctorily, and slightly performed then the other. But further its sufficiently known that few Physitians, use a tenth part of what is in the shops; & perhaps if they made their own Medicines

dicines they would find a convenience in a farther contraction of their practice ; I mean confining themselves to fewer compositions, making amends for the number in the goodness and extent of those they use, and they can at any time supply the want of a Composition (which yet will seldom happen) with Simples which as I have already manifested, would be so far from an inconvenience, that it would be a priviledge to Physician and Patient; and conduce greatly to the encrease of our knowledge of the Specificall properties of concretes; wherein I fear we are very defective. And every Physician knowing what Medicines he shall usually employ, may have them only made, which perhaps are different from those made in other Combinations, where he enjoys a double benefit; making fewer Medicines, he hath the more time to prepare them, and is likely to take care they be such as they ought to be :
and

and making only such as he is sure he shall have occasion for to dispence, thereby having little loss in their Medicines they can afford them cheaper; whereas the Apothecaries who make all the Dispensatory Medicines, loose many, (they being never called for) and are put on the temptation of selling others, when they are old, ineffectual, and have lost their sanative properties.

Another thing the Apothecary Objects against the Physitians new Model, is, *That the Patients will suffer, they not having made Provision of Persons, that are acquainted with many Operations, about sick people which the Apothecaries perform with great skill and facility; such are the administering of Clysters, applying Leeches, Vesicatories, Plasters, Pigeons, Cupping-Glasses, tending them whilst under salivation, making fomentations, &c. and that otherwise they are very helpful to, & officious about the diseased.*

To

To this we answer, That most of these litle pieces of Officiousness, whereby Apothecaries do so much endeavour themselves to Patients (of which favour, we have seen, they make no good use) are either such, as may be altogether as well performed by nurses or others that attend the sick, by the Apothecaries of our Laboratories, or others we shall breed up to these easily learned Operations; which have nothing of difficulty, but that a child of ten years old by the Physitians directions shall accurately perform: looking to people under Salivation only excepted; whom the Apothecaries for the most part less understand how to manage, than many whom the Physitians having instructed shall depute for that service. but to proceed.

The Apothecaries may further object, *That neither Physitians nor Patients have much reason on their side, when they find fault with the dearness of their*

X

Medicines

Medicines; which if the Physicians upon Complaint find too high priz'd, the Apothecaries do make such abatements as they think just and fit.

This will be a fair pretence, although I never heard it urged by any of them, neither do I believe they will trust to the Physicians arbitration; but on the contrary I know several have flatly refused it. But supposing they should all agree, let us examine whether this will give much relief to the abused Patient. For, first the English are known to have so generous a humour, especially the richer sort; that they will rather pay the whole bill without deduction, especially if the sum be not considerably great, rather than give the Physician the trouble of enquiring into this affair, which is indeed unreasonable, especially if such complaints were frequent: and nothing more certain, than that if all who were abused, should appeal to the Physician, he
would

would hear daily as many complaints of Apothecaries, as he now doth of Diseases. And that an endeavor to relieve the Plaintiff would give the Physician sufficient diversions from more serious employments, will appear, if we consider that Apothecaries bring in their bills but once every year, when all circumstances are forgot; which gives them a fair opportunity of adding to the true number and heightning the prices of Medicines, the Physician not remembering what he prescribed so long before. Neither is it to be imagined that a Physician will, or indeed can have leisure to examine twenty or thirty bills, and set down the true value of the prescriptions; not to urge how unfit an employment it is for the Professors of so noble a science as Medicine, to decide such controversies. Besides that, there would be no end of this trouble, some of the original bills being lost, only the common title of a Cordial or Purge

being registred with their prices in the book. So that it will be impossible to make an Estimate of the value of Compositions, whose Ingredients we do not know.

The last Objection we shall think worthy an answer, is made by such Apothecaries, as will not acknowledge (which we have so largely proved) their unsuitness for the practice of Physick. All they have to plead is, *That surely people would not trust their lives with them, were they not satisfied with their abilities and success. That Physicians indeed, may be better vers'd in the Theory ; but that they are as well acquainted with the Experimental, Practick part, which is the most material.*

To this I answer, first, Let them prove that any person who is not Master of the greatest Chymical *Arcana* (for that somewhat may be done by them extraordinary, though exhibited by illiterate, unskilful persons, I dare
not

not absolutely deny) can successfully exercise Physick ; and yet have none of those Qualifications, I have before enumerated : Some of which seem not only conducive, but necessary, to the right administration of Physick. And for the vulgar to entertain a marvellous good opinion of many, who little deserve it, hath been observed by wise men in all ages ; and hath of later years been confirmed by many almost incredible Examples. I shall instance only in some of recent memory : although I might without exhausting the store, in many hundred. It's well known that a pretended Chymist who calls himself *Lockier*, hath gained by a Pill many thousand pounds ; which yet is one of the vilest and most contemptible among all the Mineral Preparations, I ever yet knew tryed in Medicine. The Ingredients being certain proportions (it's needless to mention, though I have often made it) of Antimony, Saltpeter, common

sea-Salt and Charcoal ; whereof more may be made in one Laboratory, by two men in twenty four hours, than I believe he hath ever disposed of in the space of a year : and is so dangerous a Medicine that no honest person skill'd in Chymistry, who is acquainted with it's Composition, dares venture to exhibit it. It's true the gums and sugar wherewith the yellow powder is made up, do add considerably to it's bulk ; but the chief and only active Ingredient is taken in so small a dose, that I know few things which can poyson in so little a quantity : and this hath been fatal to many, who never spake after it had begun it's operation, and others did long repent their use of so rough a Medicine. I could give the world a large Catalogue of its mischievous effects : But I think they are generally satisfied in that point ; which is the reason that it is now disused. But formerly what crouding, what enquiring was there
after

after it, and how highly did *they* extol it, whose good fortune it was not to be prejudiced thereby? Now if this were so admirable a remedy, why is it not so still? wherefore lies it neglected, if so effectual as was once pretended? But it seems long experience hath given the generality of people such proof of it's noxious qualities, that thereupon, they have desisted from it's use, and learned a lesson of abstinence, which some have offered to teach them at a cheaper rate. But the wit of the vulgar is most of it bought, and many of them cannot avoid any other inconveniences, than those they have suffered by.

Thus Time the Mistress of truths, often discovers many of great importance, and the vulgar, though not so quick-sighted to discern dangers at a distance; yet they can feel pressures when they labour under them: and having cast their burden, will never again admit of it unless so disguised,

that it appears different from what it was before. And thus my mind presages it will be with the Apothecaries; if their Ruin or Reformation do not anticipate it; for this encroachment of theirs on the Physicians Profession, is of no long standing. So that people are not yet well aware of what they suffer by them, but time and some more Experiments will open their Eyes; then the tide will turn, and that same water which carried them so merrily down the stream, will return them to the place from whence they set forth; and it's well if they be dealt so favourably withal.

But further; That we are not to take our measures of things from the opinions, and persuasions of the vulgar, will be yet more Conspicuous, if we consider, how many resort to be basest pretenders to Physick, that ever yet appeared; which may serve to abate the Pride, and Confidence of Apothecaries, who urge this is an
Ar-

Argument of their own worth. There is scarce a Pissing-place about the City, where many Bills are not fastned; among which the most Modestly Penn'd, promise great matters. One undertakes a long Catalogue of diseases, and among them (can any be blamed for laughing thereat) of those that are incurable. Another performs wonderful cures by vertue of Medicines extracted out of the souls of the heathen Gods (by which I suppose he means Tinctures of Metals which he never saw) Many cure by direction from the Stars: Some by Phisnomy and Palmistry can foretell events; and I wonder none undertake to make the Heavens more propitious, for if they should I suppose there are many credulous enough to believe them. And how likely are most of these people, who make such large promises to perform them, when they are not instructed in the Rudiments of any Single Art or Science, being most of them

them mean, Ignorant Méchanicks ;
 who not being ingenious or industri-
 ous enough to subsist by the calling
 in which they were brought up , en-
 gage in another , the meaning of
 whose name they scarcely understand,
 and whose first Principles they are ut-
 terly unacquainted with : and yet the
 world flows in a pace to them they
 shrowding themselves from the dis-
 covery of the Ignorant , under the
 Covert of pretended Secrets, which
 are usually some ridiculous , sordid
 Preparations, whose effects (if they
 have any good) cannot possibly be
 made out unless we have recourse to
 the imagination of him that takes it.
 And if either they or the Apothecaries
 brag of any particular success ; We
 may answer them, as he in *Lucian* did
 the Priest ; who shewing him the of-
 ferings of those that had invoked
Neptune, when they were in danger
 of Shipwrack, boasted of the Power
 of his God which was manifested by
 the

the number of his *Donaria*, but how shall we know replied he, how many notwithstanding they invoked thy God, have nevertheless suffered Shipwrack? Which he suspected to be far the greater number. I wish the Application were not so easie as I fear it is. Thus we see that popular approbation is not sufficient to authorise Practicioners of Physick, even by the Apothecaries own Concession; who in all Companies do most bitterly inveigh against these pretenders, and dissuade all people from consulting them: which whither they do from a sense of their duty or Interest is soon determined. I shall therefore take my leave of them, with this request that they would Exchange the Motto of their Arms for another, which will better suite with their actions. It is this *Eadem probamus, eadem reprehendimus*; for the Quacking Apothecary can plead little in his own
be-

behalf, which the Mountebanks will not make use of in their defence : and urge few things against those Quack-salvers, their profest enemies, which these, if they have so much *Latine* may not again retort on them, in the saying of the Poet ;

———— *Mutato nomine de te*

Fabula narratur. ----

Now having displayed at large though not at full the injuries Medicine it self, the Physicians, and most sick people do dayly receive from the unwarrantable Practices of Apothecaries, nothing remains, but that I add a Proviso, which I have had in my Eye all along this Discourse. I would not therefore have any apprehend that, what I have said against the Apothecaries, is intended against them all, being affirmed only of the greater number; for it would be the highest injustice to Comprehend them all in the Character I have given of their unworthy associates : whose actions the Physicians do

do not disallow of, or declaim against more, than some among themselves. I dare not, I say, accuse them all of dishonest practices, there being several on whom there is impressed so true a Sense of their duty to God, and their Neighbours, that they are not capable of actions which will so highly dishonour their Christian Profession, or injure their neighbour. Others there are, whose skill in Pharmacy, and Chymistry, secure Physicians from those fears they would be otherwise Subject to, from their unskilfulness or ignorance, in one or the other. And here I must necessarily acknowledge, that I have met with some Apothecaries that for knowledge in Chymical affairs, have been much Superior to professed Chymists; and of all that I have hitherto met with, I account them the most faithful and industrious: and which may seem strange, they do prepare *Galenical* Physick, better

ter than most others , who have no other imployment ; and therefore of all others in a New Constitution of affairs, they will deserve the greatest encouragement, as being most likely to be serviceable, and faithful to the Profession of Physick, and Physicians. Who are so far from designing any thing which will be to the prejudice of such honest skilful Apothecaries (who are all sufficiently known to some Physician or other) that on the Contrary they intend them more good, than they can in the present way , promise to themselves ; and will make such provision for them, that they shall never have cause to complain, or occasion given to betray , (as the greatest part of their Company have done) so Noble a Profession as that of Physick, Or such generous friends and great Benefactors as they will find the Physicians to be, so long as they keep in those due limits, which shall with their

own consent be Prescribed them.

But here I foresee, some Objections may be made, by Physicians themselves, against the Design of preparing their own Medicines ; which although they are weak, and of little import , and deserve not to be named after the mention of those many reasons, and high advantages, wherewith that proposal is attended; yet we shall give them a fair debate, and so put a Period to this Discourse.

It may be pretended by some that are guilty of delicacy, sloath, or ignorance; and by others, who are either proud, or imprudently Zealous for their own honour, and that of their Noble Profession ; *That it is below a Physician to make his own Medicines, or give himself the trouble of supervising those whom he shall appoint to prepare them.*

To this I Answer, That I would gladly learn, whether they are *Galenists* or *Chymists* that object this ;

nor

not the latter certainly, for then they desert the Principles of their great Masters, *Paracelsus*, and *Helmont*, who do Anathematize all those that trust to Mercehary Chymists for their Medicines. And as for those who are the followers of the deservedly admired *Hippocrates*, or *Galen*, I wonder with what confidence any among them can scruple, as beneath them, those Offices wherein their great Dictators were so much Exercised. *Hippocrates* hath left recorded in many of his Writings, the care and pains he took to provide Simples, preserve, and prepare them for Medicinal uses; not only dispensing them himself, but making them in his own Operatory. And *Galen* visited many parts of *Asia*, which were renowned for famous Remedies; as *Palestine* for it's Noble Balsome, *Lemnos*, for it's Earth, and *Cyprus* for it's Minerals, bringing away quantities of them; Exposing

sing himself to great hazards, labour,
 and expense, only that he might fur-
 nish himself with the genuine Sim-
 ples, and provide against the Cheats
 and abuses of Impostors. He had
 also a Repository where his Me-
 dicines were always, either under
 his Eye, or in his hand. He him-
 self made Treacle, and never gave any
 Medicine of which he had not first
 tasted or smelt. Now could these
 great Persons give themselves so
 much trouble, and publicly ac-
 knowledge it, as apprehending it
 would rather enhance than derogate
 from the Esteem the world had
 justly for them? And shall their
 pretended admirers, and followers
 plead exemption from such im-
 ployments, because dignified with
 some empty Title? For so indeed
 it is, where not accompanied with
 reall intrinsecall merit, although it
 conciliates more Respect and E-
 Y. steem

seem to those Gallant Persons, who Honour their Titles and Dignities, by a diligent pursuance of those Noble Ends, on whose account they were conferred on them; not neglecting any means which may make their Profession more Effectuall for those great ends of preserving life and restoring health: Which if any Neglect, it is not their Formalities will gain them Repute, or enable them to Cure Diseases. They must therefore in this imitate those great Physitians, they do so highly Magnifie in their Discourses, who did not refer to Apothecaries the Preparing of Medicines, but made it their own care; neither did they think it too mean, or below them to do with their own hands, most of those things which are now accounted (by those, who in their own and the worlds Opinion are much beneath

neath them) the Ministry of Inferiour Persons.

I have by this time, I hope, returned satisfactory Answers to all those Objections I can foresee Apothecaries, or others, will make against Physitians preparing their own Medicines ; which is a Proposal more free from Exceptions than any I have hitherto met with. But let us suppose that it is attended with some slight inconveniences ; yet since there is a necessity of a change, in the opinion of all honest judicious Persons, I know no expedient like this I have offered, which in my opinion promises so well, that although through difference of opinions among Physitians and Patients, it may prove a difficult taske to introduce such a change as this we plead for, many perhaps not understanding the good of it : yet I am very confident,

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dent, that having once made tryal, both Physitians and Patients will generally agree, not to quit, upon any slight, frivolous pretences, what both one and the other find experimentally to be highly advantageous. I would therefore perswade them to deal with this Proposition, as they do when a fair new Suit of Clothes is brought them; which they put on, knowing, that though it be not exactly fit at first, it will either fit it's self to the body in wearing, or thereby more plainly shew wherein it may be mended. But if I flatter not my self and the world (which I do not if I know my self, or understand the things I have been debating) not only few or no difficulties, and inconveniences will accompany the mentioned Proposition; but on the contrary, as I have fully demonstrated, many and great advantages: whether we have respect
to

to the Patient or Physician. And indeed, what can be more desirable to either, than to have Pharmacy put in such hands, and in such a method, that none having the Interest can have the Power, nor any having the Power, can have the Interest to prepare Medicines unfaithfully? Therefore if Physicians regard the Honour of Medicine, or good of the Diseased, they will not neglect the means which answer these noble ends. And as it has been well observed in Government, That the safety of a Kingdom, or Common-wealth consists not wholly in a Prince that Governs wisely, while he lives; but in one that so orders it, that he dying, it can preserve it self: So the safety of the People (in reference to health) being cast upon Physicians, it is not sufficient that they are honest men, addicted to all the good ends of their Profession, unless they be also skilled

and careful to put their affairs in such a method, that these ends may be certainly attained to, not only by themselves, but also by others that shall succeed them. Which will most infallibly happen, if it become the custom and fashion for Physicians to look after the preparing of their own Medicines; for then the common interest will oblige all Physicians to have them as good as they can contrive or make them. And let their Servants, Apothecaries, or Operators, be never so bad or wicked; although I will not say, if this course be observed it will make them good: yet it is attended with the great convenience of being sufficient to prevent any influence their wickedness can have on Physick, It being highly improbable that they should sophisticate or Adulterate Medicines, when they make no benefit thereof. And besides, it will be almost impossible
to

to effect such designs, should they be so mischievously disposed; for they would be soon discovered, and for the future prevented.

Nothing therefore remains, but that I address my discourse to the Physicians; And certainly I need not use many more words to engage them in a design which Duty and Interest (the most perswasive and powerful Arguments in the World) must necessarily oblige them to promote. That it is our duty to reform such enormous abuses as those we have mentioned, I suppose no one will question; and that it is also no less our Interest, the Arguments I have produced, will render to those that are free from prejudices, sufficiently probable: so that as I am most certain, no honest persons who will allow themselves the liberty of reflection can be ignorant of their Duty, so

neither can they mistake their Interest. It is true indeed, the Apothecaries give forth in most Companies, that they are not at all apprehensive of any danger from the designs of such Physicians, as shall endeavour their reformation, who they pretend are but few, and those inconsiderable persons; that the greater number, and they the most eminent Physicians, have their Interest so interwoven with the Apothecaries, that they cannot be separated from them, and will never desert them: but repute all such persons their own enemies, who shall attack the Apothecaries, and all injuries that are done to these, as intended against themselves. All which is a meer fiction, of their own devising, to deter Physicians, from engaging against so great a number, so potent a faction, as they would persuade the world they are. But how gross and palpable a cheat this is, will then

then appear; when all honest, industrious Physicians shall unanimously agree to confute them; and I dare assure the world, that this will most certainly and suddenly be effected, unless there happen the most unlikely change in the humours, intentions, and resolutions of men that was ever yet known: And for the Apothecaries to expect such an alteration, were to promise to themselves little less than impossibilities. Besides, Suppose any Physicians should stand Neuter, or appear publickly concerned for them, they will be such as will rather discredit their cause, than add to it any honour or repute; for they that stand Neuters in this quarrel, or vindicate the Apothecaries must either be such who look on the profession of Physick, as a meer cheat, a craft, rather than an art or Science, who believe, that as much is performed by those that are
reputed

reputed the meanest Physicians, as by any other; the difference arising only hence, that some being more prudent and fortunate than the rest, obtain a repute proportionable to their pretended success, affable obliging demeanour, or cunning management of the People, working more upon the humours of their minds, than on those of their bodies. And if there be any thus minded, I do not wonder that their Zeal should not transport them too far against the Apothecaries; for if Physick doth so little influence diseases, what matter is it whether the Medicine be made up of bad or good Drugs? Whether it be recent, or of a longer standing? Whether made up of the same or different Ingredients from what were prescribed? Neither will a person thus perswaded, apprehend he is in conscience obliged to reform these abuses, which as I have shewed, are frequent among
Apo-

Apothecaries; Nor can he have the least pretence against their exercising the practice of Physick. For if all cure alike, and so little good be done by the Professors of that Faculty, then why may not the Apothecaries be allowed as well as any others? So that these, should they oppose them on an account of interest, their consciences rather reproaching than encouraging them, they cannot with any confidence accuse the Apothecaries for actions, which if they be faults, they themselves are guilty of the same; and if they be not, the same Principle which acquits them, must also free the other. *These* probably, if there are any such, will stand Neuters, and not much concern themselves in a quarrel *de Lanâ caprinâ*.

But perhaps there are some of another humour, who make great advantages of the Apothecaries in
wayes

wayes I could mention: which for
 many reasons, I forbear to manifest.
 Now if there be any Physitians of this
 latter sort, who shall endeavour to
 uphold the Apothecaries, notwith-
 standing they do not relinquish their
 former ill courses, only because they
 make some benefit of them; who so-
 ever, I say, they are that have such
 sordid Spirits, so unworthy the Name
 they bear, the noble Science they
 make profession of, and the great
 Trust reposed in them; that for a
 little gain, shall betray their Profession
 to scorn, and their Patients to most ma-
 nifest hazards, These dishonest and un-
 faithful persons will have so good
 espial kept on them, that all their
 prudence shall not secure them from
 having their sordid actions displayed
 in genuine colours: which will render
 them so odious and despicable, that
 most will desert them, and apply
 themselves to those worthy Physitians
 who

who are so far from countenancing the Apothecaries in their fraudulent courses, that they had rather give themselves the trouble of preparing their own Physick, than expose the Sick to manifold inconveniences: as they do who compromise with the Apothecaries in their unworthy practices, and share with them their dishonest gain.

FINIS.

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ERRATA.

PAge 10. line 14. read *being*, p. 15. l. 23.
 dele *not*, p. 16. l. 1. dele *such*, p. 21. l.
 19. for *of r. in*, p. 23. l. 15. add *another*, l. 19.
 dele *for*, p. 29. l. 1. dele *still*, p. 30. l. 24. for
such r. so, p. 40. l. 4. r. *Newcastle*, l. 24. dele
but, p. 46. l. 4. dele the period, p. 50. l. 2. r. *the*
Ens Veteris, p. 51. l. 1. r. *and are*, p. 53. l. 20.
 dele *the*, p. 61. l. 12. r. *that seem not to have any*
affinity, p. 65. l. 24. dele *can*, p. 72. l. 18. for *in*
r. on, p. 108. l. 7. for *Pffections r. Affections*, p.
 110. l. 7. for *Ponfideration r. Consideration*, l.
 14. dele *all*, p. 112. l. 3. r. *detefts*, p. 190. l. 16.
r. dilating, p. 193. l. 25. dele *long*, p. 209. l. 6.
 for *dyes before r. dyes, although before*, p. 216.
 l. 14. dele *shall*, p. 218. l. 19. after *Physick*,
 add *and its regulation*, p. 233. l. 13. for *it be-*
ing r. it is, p. 254. l. 24. for *profitable r. proba-*
ble, p. 255. l. 5. for *converse r. commerce*, p. 226
 l. 5. dele *and*, p. 267. l. 3. r. *Copious*, p. 273. l. 7.
 dele *in some measure*, p. 291. l. 8. r. *who under-*
stands.

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